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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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NATIONAL
Weekly Newspaper
In the United States.

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Poetry.

AVEST BATTLE EVER FOUGHT.

he bravest battle that ever was fought!
Shall I tell you where and when?
the maps of the world you will find it not;
'T was fought by the mothers of men.

, not with cannon, or battle shot,
ith sword, or nobler pen,
, not with eloquent word or thought,
rom mouths of wonderful men.

deep in a walled-up woman's heart—
woman that would not yield,
bravely, silent bore her part—
there is that battlefield.

marshalling troops, no divouac songs;
banner to gleam and wave;
ut oh! these battles, they last so long—
From baby hood to the grave!

Yet, faithful still as a bridge of stars,
She fights in her walled-up towns—
Fights on and on in the endless wars,
Then silent, unseen, goes down.

O ye with banners and battle shot,
And soldiers to shout and praise,
I tell you the kingliest victories fought
Were fought in these silent ways.

O, spotless woman in a world of shame!
With splendid and silent scorn,
Go back to God as white as you came,
The kingliest warrior born!

—Joaquin Miller.

LIFE.

A little time for labor,
A little time for play,
And then there comes eternal night
Or else eternal day!

A little time for joying,
A little time for grief,
And then we fall into the grave,
s falls the autumn leaf!

ttle time for laughter,
little time for tears,
en an ocean gathers up
e measure of our years!

tle time for loving,
little time for hate,
, with swift and shuddering feet,
open an unknown gate!

tle time for singing,
ttle time for wail,
our sails are torn to shreds
re an unknown gale!

le time for meeting,
ttle time to part,
a cruel hand tears away
flowers born in the heart!

e time to waken,
le time to nod,
In glee, worms feed upon
image of the God!
lton Jay in Florida Times-Union.

DISAPPOINTED BLONDE.

A ful thing, with hair of rippling
W of azure, arteries of ice;
A digestion of the fabled joy
Th s the faithful soul in para-
W n she's shown Niagara, says:
nice."

With as vacant as a city lot
Tha n for twenty years in chan-
Her are centered in a bank ac-
A s sack, a house, some jewelry:
Al eside with grace and pour
t.

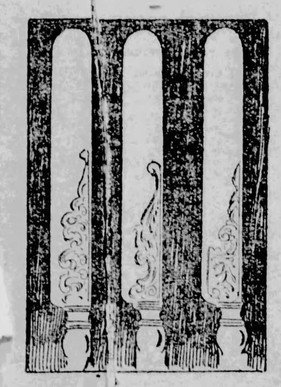
A cr who, in hour of direct need,
Wil to rest in other arms than
And hile not possessed, to some
A em
something more than half
I'll brunette, please, I want no
in mine.
—Chicago Dispatch.

Miscellany.

NEW WORK FOR WOMEN.

Etching on Knife Blades a Very Fascinating Employment.

A novel in artistic home decorative work is thing on knife blades. The designs are shown have been executed by Vona ladies, and are now on exhibition here in the Museum of Industrial A. The design is first made upon the life blade, which may be of



KNIFE BLADES AFTER ETCHING.

brass or any other metal, and all those places which are to remain unetched are covered with asphaltum varnish. After the blade is entirely covered with varnish the lines of the drawing must be touched up with an etching needle. After the varnish is dried the knives are placed in a solution of muriatic acid.

The blades should be immersed at least one inch when small air bubbles appear. This shows that the etching process properly has begun, and it is well to take the knives out from time to time with the aid of wooden spoons, to see whether or not the lines are etched deep enough. Should the varnish become loose anywhere on the blade during the process of etching, the blade must be taken out, rinsed, and the varnish removed by new before it is put in again. When the designs are completely etched in, the knives are first washed and the varnish taken off with the aid of turpentine; the knives are then cleaned with soap and water and a soft brush. After being etched these knives may be either gilded or silvered, but will still show the beautiful underlying design.

JOKELETS FROM JUDGE.

"Did you ever see a man shot?" said Fosdick to Gaskett.

"No; but I've seen what amounts mathematically to the same thing."

"Explain yourself, please."

"I have seen two men half shot."

He—Did you hear about Prof. Masheer, the lecturer, having to cancel his engagements?

She—Mercy, no! Has he been drinking?

He—No; he married one of the engagements and had to cancel the rest. He spent the summer at Asbury, you know.

Police Court Judge—You are charged with having Farmer Jones' pocketbook in the night of the fifth instant. Guilty or not?

Flowery Fields—Why, Jedge, it was like dis. Me an' Weary Raggs was a-layin' under de haystack gossipin' like we'en Weary said dat Cleveland orter have a third term. I said he hadn't. Weary said he had. I said Weary was soft. Den Weary call me a bum. Den I called Weary a hobo. Den we bot' got red hot an' de heat set two tons o' hay, an'—

Judge—Five hundred dollar bonds for the Superior court.

Norah, did you make iced tea for lunch to-day, the same as I asked you yesterday?"

"Sure I did, mum; but it say-got did be that froze Of sot it on th' ice uv th' shtove to take th' chill aff."

School Visitor—What did George Washington say when his father asked him who cut down the cherry tree?

Boy—He said, "I dot it, ole man—that's right."

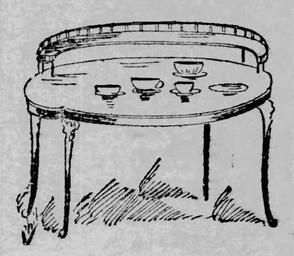
School Visitor—Hum, that's near enough—and what did that prove about George Washington's character?

Boy—It proved that he was dead on to his pa, he man an' knew his ol man was dead on to him.

COFFEE FOR TEA TABLES.

Tea Does Not Please All, Hence This Innovation.

If you would have your tea table up-to-date you must take for your model the one at which your great-grandmother served the fragrant amber liquid, and must copy it in every detail. If you have a garret which has not yet yielded up all its treasures and you can unearth the suitable cups and spoons that were in use a hundred years ago, your table will be an assured success. If, however, you are not so fortunate; if either your an-



A SHERATON TABLE.

cestors did not dispense tea or have not preserved the service in good shape, the shops will supply all your needs. Exact replicas of all paraphernalia of a hundred years ago can be purchased. The new is a perfect reproduction of the old. Between the table set off with heirlooms and the one fitted out to-day there is little if any difference discoverable by the ordinary eye. Pride of ancestry and the consciousness that your silver bears a stamp not obtainable by the less lucky of your friends may give you an added dignity of bearing and may even cause you to feel that the antiquity of your equipment is palpable to every eye. But as a plain matter of fact the reproductions are all so perfect there is only the telltale mark of the maker, and that no guest would be so rude to study.

The very handsomest tables that can be bought are known as the Sheraton or Chippendale tables, and modeled after those celebrated makers' best efforts. A real beauty made of mahogany with the Empire wreath delicately inlaid about the edge sells for $27 a piece, which in itself proves how immensely methods of work have improved. It is graceful in outline, shows the one large shelf and the upper narrower one and is supported by slender, dainty legs; altogether a completed table which even Sheraton himself might have been glad to claim.

Similar designs are shown in birds' eye maple, and there are others in mahogany, but this one takes precedence of all the rest. The low, round tables, modeled somewhat after the Turkish style, are less costly, and are wholly unobjectionable, but as a clever woman says: "The real Turkish stool is good, but it belongs with Oriental woods and a Turkish outfit. If one has a table of Western wood, and an equipment of English, American or any but Eastern make, it is wiser to choose a shape that corresponds."

For lovers of the Oriental the carved teakwood is really elegant.

The ideal tea party for the coming season will have besides the teapot and kettle a coffee urn in the same style, and guests will be given a choice of the two drinks. Some few hostesses serve chocolate also, but this entails rather an elaborate preparation, and it is probable will be seen only at the larger teas. What is promised and what we shall all be glad to see is greater simplicity of service. The tea or the coffee, or both will be dispensed by the hostess or her daughter, and some delicate morsel will be served therewith, but there will be a notable absence of all foods that require forks. A sandwich made in most tempting fashion, rolls made after a favorite recipe, cake delicately cut and served—all will be there, but further elaboration of the menu will be left to the supper to which it belongs.

GOING UP STAIRS.

To Do This Gracefully Is to Be Accomplished.

The woman who finds herself at the top of a flight of stairs, breathless and exhausted, gasping and blowing in a distressing manner, has undergone an awful physical strain. The heart and the stomach have been made to do double duty, that of the lungs and their own combined, with more often only one-half of the room required to do it in, from the compressing force of the stays. Consequently, one of the most graceful actions that a woman is called on most often to illustrate is transformed, by the ignorance of a few rules of physical culture, into one of the most ludicrous and sorry sights imaginable.

The woman who clutches her skirts in front midway between the hip and the knee bends her body from the hips almost into a bow and drags up, laboriously exhausting her wind and energies at every step, is making a foolish and a ridiculous mistake, for which she suffers severely long before arriving at the top.

One of the handsomest pictures painted of feminine beauty is that of a lovely woman ascending a fine, old staircase. Her slender figure is gracefully erect, her lovely face on the column-like throat turned half over her shoulder. The arms are bare, and droop with perfectly natural grace to her knees, where the silken skirts are daintily lifted to allow the free play of tiny, slippered feet. The lady is in the act of ascending, and seems to float upward, the personification of grace itself.

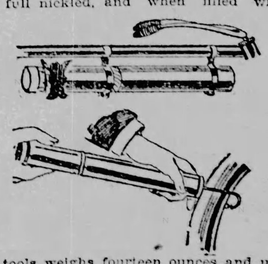
One imagines that he can see her catch her silken skirt at either knee, lifting it just to the ankle, expand her chest, hold her shoulders well back and her arms down. Then the slender body rests squarely on the hips, not dragging forward, and, standing perfectly erect, she glides upward, easily and gracefully.

A TOOL-CASE PUMP

Which is Designed Especially for Bicycle Riders.

A genuine novelty for the use of cyclists is a combination tool-case pump. As the name implies, it is a two-in-one article the cuts of which make extended description unnecessary. When it is desired to use the contrivance as a pump, the rubber hose is attached and the tire inflated in the usual manner. It is not even necessary to remove the tools, in fact, their weight adds greatly to the power of the pump.

The article is 8 1-2 by 1 3-4 inches, full nickled, and when filled with



tools weighs fourteen ounces and upwards. It is claimed to be twenty times more powerful than the ordinary hand pump. The case is fastened to the frame of the machine, as shown and can be made thief-proof by the use of a padlock.

Blasted Hopes.

"Yes."

He had been waiting for that one little word, and his heart beat fast as he heard her say it.

"Yes."

He longed to take her in his arms, but she spoke as if there was more that she wished to say, and so he hesitated.

"Yesterday I promised to be another's."

He strode away in the gloaming.—Chicago Post.

The Worm Turns.

Miss Uptown—He, he! Why is it that you bald-headed men like to sit in the front row?

Mr. Bouttown—Because there we have no Eiffel tower hats in front of us.—New York Weekly.

FIRST 13-INCH GUN

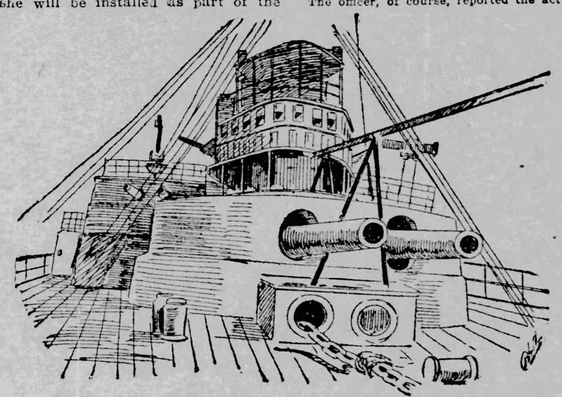
TO BE FIRED FROM AN AMERICAN NAVAL VESSEL.

The Concussion May Cripple That Floating Fortress, the Indiana—A Half-Ton Projectile.

There will take place in a very short time a test which will not only mean much to the United States navy, but which will be watched with interest by armament and naval experts the world over, says Megargee in one of his interesting letters to the Philadelphia Times. It will determine whether or not the firing of the 13-inch gun on the first of Uncle Sam's battle ships, the Indiana, will or will not cripple that magnificent floating fortress. It is a matter legarding which few people are technically informed, and which has, therefore, not attracted public attention.

Her Torpedo Equipment.

The Indiana is now at Newport, R. I., at the United States government torpedo sation, where she is being supplied with a full equipment of the famous Whitehead torpedoes, dreadful missiles of destruction which can be ejected through tubes with which the battleship is provided. From thence in a few days she will proceed to Port Royal, S. C., where she will be landed high in the government's dry dock in order that her bottom may receive a thorough cleansing. When that task has been accomplished she will join the United States war squadron now anchored in Hampton roads. As she approaches Point Comfort she will fire an admiral's salute and in return will be greeted by the entire squadron with a captain's salute. With this simple ceremony she will be installed as part of the



PILOT HOUSE, CONNING TOWER AND FORWARD THIRTEEN-INCH GUN TURRET.

squadron whose ultimate destination just now is the subject of much dispute in diplomatic circles. Her stay there will be very brief and from those waters she will at once proceed to make an ocean run of 48 hours which will be the government's test of her various capabilities. During this ordeal, for the first time in the history of the United States government, a 13-inch gun will be fired from a vessel.

What a Thirteen-Inch Gun Is.

Few people understand the seriousness of this feat. Let us first understand what a 13-inch gun is, and the Indiana, by the way, carries four of them in addition to a large number of weapons of smaller caliber. Each of the 13-inch guns on the Indiana is 39 feet 11 1-2 inches in length—one-half inch less than 40 feet. Each weighs about 67 tons. Each fires a solid steel shot or shell 13 inches in diameter and about 4 feet in length. Each of these weighs 1,300 pounds and is composed of a quality of steel that costs 25 cents a pound, making the cost of each shot exactly $250. To fire this projectile when in war action requires the use of 500 pounds of powder, so that it will readily be seen that each discharge of each gun costs a pretty penny. With that amount of explosive force back of it the 13-inch gun will throw one of these steel messengers of death a distance of about twelve miles. Of course no attempt will be made to strike a vessel at that distance because the shot would then have lost its destructive force, although at that distance explosive shells could be thrown into a beleaguered city and cause much havoc. But imagine a projectile of that size—we are speaking now of solid shot—striking the side of a vessel, say, only two miles away. It would require a wonderfully perfect condition of armor to withstand the shock of the impact.

But the question of cost and the question of force do not involve the most serious aspect of the trial of the 13-inch gun which will take place in the near future.

What Happened to a British Ship.

Some time ago the English government experimented with a 13-inch gun on a ship of the Royal Sovereign class. The name of it is not just now recalled. At the first firing of the gun the entire upper deck was lifted from its position and sprung along its entire center, so terrible was the shock. The Indiana has been specially equipped to provide against any such disaster and her decks have been constructed in such a manner that naval experts agree that no such damage can befall her when the 13-inch guns send out their flaming messages. Naval experts are agreed, however, that when she is in action and the four 13-inch guns are performing their deadly work the explosions will shatter and destroy every piece of woodwork and glass in every portion of the vessel. That is expected and prepared for and for that reason the battleship Indiana is composed almost entirely of iron and steel. She has been aptly described as an enormous floating steel fort with a ship built around it for purposes of navigation. Fully one-half of her could be shot away and she would still float and retain her unequaled fighting power. But it is not Uncle Sam's wish that this grand marine monster should have her exterior furnishing wrecked before there is any necessity for it, and, therefore, the officers who will have charge of the approaching test, instead of placing a charge of 500 pounds of powder behind one of the 1,300-pound projectiles will use only from 300 to 350 pounds and thus it is hoped that while they will satisfy themselves as to the working of the gun they will not wreck the interior woodwork of the vessel.

Our Best War Vessel.

The Indiana is not a half battleship and half cruiser, like the Maine, but a full-fledged battleship, which is the United States' most powerful ship now in commission, and one which will compare favorably with England's largest ships. Like the United States steamship Maine, she does not make the imposing appearance of the United States steamship New York, a cruiser. She is of low free board, with all deck houses midships, but a most wicked craft she would be in a fight. She boasts not of two turrets but of six, one at either corner of the deck structure, each containing a pair of eight-inch rifles, and large ones fore and aft, containing 13-inch guns in pairs.

Besides, she carries four six-inch guns mounted on the gun deck, which go to make up a broadside. These 20 guns go to make up her main battery, and a powerful one it is, but for close range fighting and repelling torpedo structure and fighting tops some two dozen 6 pr. R. F. Hotchkiss guns, which causes the ship to have a decidedly wicked appearance. Then, to still further increase her effectiveness, she has four torpedo tubes.

These facts and figures should bring us to a realization of what a serious thing war is in these modern times.

TAUGHT HIM NOT TO FEAR.

A Thrilling Story of the Wonderful Russian Army Discipline.

At Sebastopol, during the siege, a Capt. Samolloff desiring some wine, ordered an officer to send a man after it. The man, a young soldier, took the money and started on the errand. Just then, however, a French battery had concentrated its fire upon the very spot where the young man must go outside the works, says Pearson's Weekly. He stopped and then turned back.

"I wouldn't go out there for the world," he said.

The officer, of course, reported the act of disobedience to the captain. The captain, in a rage, ordered the man into his presence, and demanded why he had not obeyed his captain's order.

"I beg you to pardon me, captain, but I was terribly afraid!"

"Afraid!" cried the captain. "Afraid! A Russian soldier afraid. Wait a minute, I will drive the fear out of you. Come with me."

The captain led the way to the rampart, mounted it, and there, with the bullets raining round him, began putting the man through some military exercises. The lookers-on in the fort held their breath. If a hat was put on a bayonet and lifted above the walls the bullets came that way in an instant.

Not many minutes elapsed before a bullet struck the captain in the arm. He did not wince, but kept on with the drill, while the blood dropped down his hand to the wall.

Next a bullet went through the tail of the soldier's coat and another through his knapsack. Then suddenly the firing ceased.

The soldier begged for grace and promised to go wherever he was sent. Still the captain continued his drill. When he thought the lesson had been learned, or, perhaps, when his arm grew too painful, he dismissed the soldier and went himself to the surgeon and had his wound dressed.

The French explained afterwards that they ceased firing out of sheer astonishment at the sight of the two men exposing themselves so recklessly.

WOMEN AS JUDGES.

Instances in Which They Have Held High Judicial Positions.

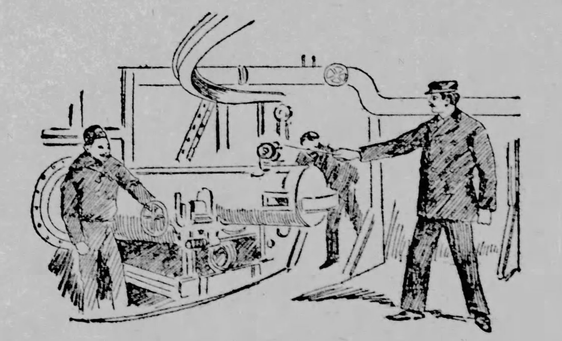
There is again a movement afoot regarding the admittance of females into the legal profession, writes James Payn, in the London Illustrated News. It will probably be some time before they are admitted, at all events as advocates, in our courts of law. Yet women have appeared in law courts since the earliest times. When Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, pleaded her own cause against her grandson, she was asked why she had retained the sword that had been given by the emperor to his illustrious grandfather, and replied quite coolly:

"Lest he should pick out the diamonds and pawn them."

Another lady, defending her conduct for declining to pay for a piece of tapestry, said that the figures worked upon it were as ugly as the advocate upon the other side. This was probably the first instance of that particular line of defense known as "abusing the plaintiff's attorney."

If women, however, had never been barristers, they have been judges. Mr. Coke James tells us that when Lady Anne Berkeley complained to Henry VIII of certain persons who should have known better (her relatives), who killed her deer and fired her hayricks, he issued a special commission under the great seal, making her one of the quorum of judges. She opened the commission, sat on the bench, impannelled the jury, and when the verdict was given pronounced the sentence. It seems just possible that she may have had a little prejudice in the matter.

Women have come to even still higher preferment. Henry II made his wife Eleanor keeper of the great seal during his absence in Gascony; but, unhappily, the sittings were interrupted by the accouchement of the chancellor.



FIRING A TORPEDO.

Another Trilby.

"That is the prettiest little foot in the world," said Baby Ruth's father one morning, as he stopped to caress a tiny pink and white foot thrust out from a little white nightgown.

"There isn't in all the world another such a pretty little foot as that."

"Oh, yes, there is, papa," was the little girl's reply, and thrusting out the other foot, she added:

"Here it is, papa."

Enough to Drive Her to Drink.

"This," she muttered, bitterly, "is enough to drive me to drink. Here I come home from work to find the children crying for something to eat, while the nurse is sparking the policewoman in the kitchen and my husband is gadding, the Lord knows where."

The newness of the new woman had already begun to wear off in spots.—Detroit Tribune.

Our Serial Story.

THE MYSTERY OF AVENUE D.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE BLADE
BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER SEVENTH—SALLY MARTIN.

When Maxwell opened his eyes again he thought he was dreaming. He was lying on a low bed in a darkened room. He thought he could smell the sweet piney odor of the forest. A faint breeze moved the door. He raised himself on one elbow and looked around. There was a man's hat hanging on a nail and a coat. Both were well worn. There was a familiar sound; the sizzling of fat; there was likewise the odor of fat frying.

Maxwell put his hand up to his head. There was a bandage around it. The recollection of the encounter with the flying horseman returned with a rush. The scene under the willows stood out boldly. Where was he, and where was his fellow pursuers??

He lay there pondering this question until sleep overpowered him. When he awoke again a woman was diligently employed in setting the room to rights. There was a murmur of voices near at hand. Maxwell was looking steadily at the woman when she turned around. She met his gaze with a look that seemed to be measuring him. Then, after due deliberation, she spoke.

"How are you feeling now?"

"Quite well—that is, I do not feel sick or in any way uncomfortable, thank you."

"Jeff!" The woman turned to the door as she called.

"What's wantin' now?" a voice drawled in reply.

"You come here and see."

A man strode in heavily and looked down at Maxwell curiously.

"Hello! Glad to see you comin' round agin. How d' you feel? A sorter heavy in the head? Shouldn't wonder if you did. Guess you'll pull through all right. My wife said so from the start. And she's had experience."

"Will you tell me where I am?" Maxwell tried to sit up, but he was weak; so weak that he sank back upon his pillow with a sigh.

"I wouldn't try just yet a while if I was you."

The man regarded him attentively, then added: "You are in my house, and welcome till you're able to move."

Maxwell smiled. "But you have not told me where your house is. How far am I from Cripple Creek?"

"Well, a matter of twenty miles I guess."

"Have I been here long?"

"A little spell."

"That is very vague."

"Why can't you answer the man?" said the woman tartly. "You were brought here three days ago."

"Who brought me?"

"Why, Old Bill and some other fellows," said the head of the house, as his wife argued to him vigorously.

"Was anybody else hurt? Did they get any of the robbers?"

"In one way they did—got two of them—with lead. The others got off. And Old Bill's tearin' mad; mad's a wet hen, cause the worst one got off. They never so much as hurt a hair on his head. And three of you fellows get it plunk. That's what makes Bill so roarin' mad."

"Jeff," said the woman, "you might bring him in some of that soup; I don't think it will hurt him any how. "As Jeff passed out the woman lifted Maxwell's head and arranged the pillow at his back. She was as strong as a man, but there was the woman's touch that gave ease to the wounded man. Presently Jeff entered with the soup in a large yellow bowl. The woman bestowed a look on her husband that made him blush. Then taking the bowl out of his hand she went to the kitchen, returning with a white bowl and a spoon.

Maxwell emptied the bowl in a few minutes. As Jeff was taking the empty bowl back to the kitchen Maxwell stopped him.

"Don't you think a man that can eat the way I do ought to be able to get out of bed?

"You and my wife for that," said Jeff. "Whatever my wife says in the house goes."

"I don't think it advisable for you to try it just yet awhile," said Jeff's wife firmly.

"Old Bill will look to me to take care of you. I couldn't well meet him if I allowed you to hurt yourself in any way."

"I guess my wife's right," said Jeff. So the matter was settled for the time being at least.

Jeff soon disappeared from view and once more the murmur of voices was borne in through the open door to Maxwell's ears. Soon he fell asleep again; when he woke it was dusk. The woman brought him some meat that was as sweet as a squirrel's flesh. Maxwell was ravenous; the woman smiled as she bore the dish into the kitchen.

The next day Maxwell sat up "just to try his paces," as he plead; seeing he was gathering strength, the woman permitted him to sit out of doors. She pretended to be horrified when she discovered Maxwell and her husband smoking, but Jeff promptly asserted his authority.

"It's out of doors, Sal, and out of doors what I say goes." So for three days Maxwell sat around Jeff's cabin smoking and contemplating the distant landscape listlessly. Thanks to a good constitution and a philosophical mind his recovery was rapid.

The third day was well advanced when Maxwell noticed a speck on the rolling billow that reminded him of prairie land. If instead of scattered patches of mesquite there were waving prairie grass he could fancy himself eight hundred miles nearer home.

The speck speedily resolved itself into a horseman; when the rider approached so near that Maxwell could see the jackrabbits skurrying out of his way, Jeff, who stood beside him shouted to his wife:

"Put some more beans in the pot, Sally; here's Old Bill comin'."

Old Bill received a welcome that surprised Maxwell until he learned that the scout had rendered a service to Jeff's wife that entitled him to her lasting gratitude. One day when Jeff's wife was going to a neighbor's a bear emerged unexpectedly from a thicket. The bare, sombre plain stretched below her; there was not a soul in sight. The nearest house was half a mile distant. The bear came on at a swinging gallop; Jeff's wife was stricken with terror; she had given herself up as lost, when she heard the crack of a rifle. The bear rolled over on the ground as Old Bill came in view, rifle in hand.

"It's enough to make a man jealous to see the fuss my wife makes over Old Bill," said Jeff, nudging Maxwell as he spoke.

Old Bill wore his honors meekly and paid assiduous court to the most bounteous repast Jeff wife could provide. His praise was genuine; antelope's meat never tasted sweeter than the savory pieces Jeff's wife place before Old Bill, whose appetite was enormous. He was a rough, unassuming man with a homely, but kindly face. Maxwell could easily understand how such a man would gain the confidence of all who know him. He had a rough, ready wit, rarely displayed, and this also told in his favor among the men of the plains. As the edibles disappeared Jeff interrogated Bill concerning affairs at Cripple Creek.

"Any fresh news about Easy Jack?"

"Nothing reliable," Bill answered. "A party was held up over at Marshall Pass; now folks are saying taint fair to put it all on Easy Jack. But as near as I can make out there ain't no doubt but he is the man we are lookin' after. However, if this man here agrees with the others, it won't be long before we are dead sure. I'm glad to see him lookin' so well; he's able to travel now, I reckon, so there ain't no call for keeping him here any longer."

"He's as welcome as day," said Jeff's wife quickly.

"I don't doubt it," Bill replied, "but that ain't the point. We want to strike the trail while it is hot. Now we've got Easy Jack on the jump, we want to keep him on the jump. I'm not goin' to do a hand's turn for another week but give my whole mind to catchin' the devil—excuse me, Mrs. Haywood, but that's what he is, a born devil."

"He's wuss than the devil," said Jeff; "the devil always gives a fellow a chance, but no one ever heard of Easy Jack giving anybody a chance."

"Holdin' up is bad enough," said Bill as he helped himself to another slice of bread, "but when it comes to tyin' men under coaches an' firin' pistols over women's heads it's a little more'n some of us are goin' to stand."

Maxwell, who was listening in silence ventured to ask who the road agent was.

"That's what we would like to know ourselves," Bill replied. "So far as I know, there ain't a man that's able to swear who he is. He played it so fine two or three times that they thought he was a woman in man's clothes. He isn't exactly the same no two times."

Do you mean that he disguises himself?" Maxwell recalled the long light hair of the man who by all accounts was worse than the devil.

"I don't know about the hair," Bill replied, reflecting a moment. "I'll swear to the woman's dress part, for I saw that myself. 'Twas me that found the dress in the chapperal after he held up the coach at Polks. People was talkin' about the woman that held up the lot—eight men—all alone. I crost the divide just after the coach was stopped and went out for curiosity, just to see for myself—'twas then I found the dress. There was the fresh clay on it. I brought it in where they could all see it. 'That's your woman,' said I; don't none of you ever say woman to me agin when you are talkin' about that hold up,' and they never have, either."

"I would like to see this man you are talking about," Maxwell said slowly. Jeff looked at Bill and winked; Bill stared at Maxwell open mouthed, then burst into a hearty laugh.

"Well seein' how you have met, I shouldn't think you'd be so anxious to meet him agin unless you had the advantage of him; he is so all fired quick on the trigger."

"You think I am indebted to him for this," Maxwell pointed to his head.

"There ain't the least mite of doubt about that. Who else was it?"

"That is what I would like to learn from you," said Maxwell dryly. "I am wholly in the dark. I know nothing of the things that occurred after I fell off my horse into the water."

"There isn't much to tell." Old Bill placed a hand on either side of his plate and looked steadily at Maxwell. "When we turned the bend they were there, five of them. They were well under shelter, an' we were in the open an' there was where they had the advantage of us. We dashed right on to them; they broke an' run, we followed. We blazed away at them an' they gave it back to us. We were hot after them when they popped you and Carter. Carter was only stunned; thought you were a goner at first; directly I seen you'd got so we brought you over the creek to Jeff's here—that's all there is to tell."

"And the robbers—did they all get away? I thought Jeff said—"

"Old Bill interrupted him with a strange smile. Drawing the corners of his mouth down he said "There were two that didn't get away—they won't hold up any more coaches in Colorado."

"Did you find any of the valuables?"

"Found a lot of watches an' trinkets, an' a lot of money on the men that we killed, but there ain't no manner of doubt about the gang—they were the fellows we were after. Besides, we knew one of them; a fellow that's given us lots of trouble—all I'm sorry for, the head devil got away. That's Easy Jack. And that's the man we want you to help us to catch or drive out of Colorado."

"How am I to travel?" Maxwell asked.

"Haywood will get you a horse or a mule I guess long enough to get you over to Cripple Creek."

"No trouble about that," Haywood answered promptly.

"I wish we could start now," said Maxwell, "time is valuable to me."

"I don't see nothin' to hinder; I'd as lief start now as to-morrow." Old Bill looked through the door. The sky was clear.

"Don't you want to rest after riding so long?"

Jeff's wife's tones expressed real solicitude. Old Bill laughed.

"I ain't a mite tired. What surprises me is the way this man Maxwell—what's your name I believe?" Maxwell nodded. "The way he has picked up. Beats all. But a man that can eat like that—well he is able to travel a few miles."

Jeff also disappeared. Half an hour later he rode up to the door where Bill and Maxwell sat smoking and talking about the latest developments at the gold mines. Old Bill was not a talking man, but he was reliable, and somehow he seemed to hear the latest news from the leading mines. He had traveled over the greater portion of Colorado; he was as familiar with the well known routes as any man in the country; by many he was rated the best informed and most reliable scout in Colorado. Maxwell was deeply interested in Bill's descriptions of the Grand Canyon when Haywood dismounted.

Mrs. Haywood gathered Maxwell's papers carefully and handed them to him when he was preparing to leave. They were wet when they were taken out of his pocket; she had the forethought to dry them and place them on a shelf.

Maxwell was standing near the door. He reached out a hand, saying "I hope I may be able to repay you some day, Mrs. Haywood for the trouble I have given you; I feel indebted to you more than mere words can express."

Jeff's wife laughed. "Oh that's nothing. Who knows but you may do me a good turn some day. If ever you are in Pollock——"

"Pollock, in Pennsylvania?" Maxwell leaned toward her quickly. "Was your name Martin?"

"Yes. Why do you ask that?"

Maxwell strode out of the door.

"Mr. Haywood you can tie the horse up for the present. I must talk to your wife before I go away."

He turned back to Mrs. Haywood in the same moment. She was looking after him in a bewildered manner. Maxwell sat down in a deliberate manner saying: "You may as well sit down Mrs. Haywood. I have several questions to ask you."

Mrs. Haywood sat down; Jeff followed by Old Bill entered at the same moment. Both looked curiously at Maxwell; from Maxwell to Jeff's wife. "You know a Mrs. Keplar?" Maxwell said.

"Very well?" There was a note of inquiry in Mrs. Haywood's voice. Maxwell smiled reassuringly as he continued.

"Then you can confirm what Mrs. Keplar told me concerning the Latimores."

"I knew the Latimores—what did Mrs. Keplar tell you?"

Maxwell related the purport of his interview with Mrs. Keplar. Jeff and Old Bill looked at each other, then at Maxwell. Mrs. Haywood knit her brows; she was wondering what it all led to. Maxwell deemed it best to explain the matter fully. When he recounted the details of the murder his listeners looked at each other spell bound.

"All the devils isn't in Colorado," Old Bill exclaimed when Maxwell ceased speaking.

"No, they are not," said Mrs. Haywood with a shudder, "if ever there was a human devil, Mr. Latimore was one."

"You don't seem to have any agreeable recollections of him." Old Bill cut off a fresh quid of tobacco in a reflective manner as he looked at Jeff's wife.

"Never heard her 'lude to him in any way 'thout thinking he must a' been an ornary whelp," said Jeff with unusual emphasis.

"Well you can judge for yourselves when I tell you what I saw with my own eyes," said Mrs. Haywood. "Nobody but a devil would do what I'm going to tell you."

CHAPTER VIII.—THE MIRROR.

"When I went to live with the Latimores, the first thing that I noticed was a sort of scared look in Mrs. Latimore's eyes. I'd seen her once or twice before she was married, but she did not look the same. Fanny Burke was a great girl for fun, I'd always heard, but all the life was out of her. And the least thing startled her; if a shutter blew to, or anything fell, making a noise, she started, and Mr. Latimore laughed when he saw her that way. I took a dislike to him from the very first, just on that account."

"Don't blame you," said Bill. "Nice sort o' man to have 'round a house."

"I wasn't there very long before Mrs. Latimore took me into her confidence. She told me why she was glad to have some one about her she knew. Sometimes business did not go right with Mr. Latimore, and then his temper was awful. But that wasn't all. She said he didn't like his brother Alf. She said she couldn't help it if Alf came there; she never knew when he was coming, and when he came he was always wanting money from his brother, and they quarreled so.

"I did not tell her, but I knew there was more than that in it; I'd heard about her and Alf fancying each other after she'd promised Wilford. But Fanny Burke was as true a wife as ever lived; I wish I could say as much for the devil that married her. He was a beast as well as a devil. At first I thought he was a very handsome man; I wasn't in the house a week before I changed my mind.

"One day I heard loud talk in the dining room. It kept up quite a while; when I went in Mrs. Latimore was in tears. Her husband was 'marring her; you know how children nag each other—just that way. I got out of the room just as soon as I could closing the door after me. Mr. Latimore, he came and opened it. I thought that was awful mean of him."

"Wanted her to hear him jaw her—what do you think of a man that would do that, Bill?" Jeff snorted in a manner that expressed intense disgust.

"I don't think—I'd break his head for him," Bill replied.

Jeff's wife continued: "Of course there was no use in Mrs. Latimore's trying to conceal the truth from me after that. So she asked me just to appear as if I did not hear anything; that would be the best way, because her husband had said he wanted me to hear it, and if I didn't notice, maybe he wouldn't do it again. She said Alf was there, after money as usual, or maybe just to show her husband he didn't care for him. It seemed as if their father expected Wilford to pay money to Alf; it was all mixed up some how.

"And Mrs. Latimore got the worst of it among them—the dirty skunks!" Old Bill's disguest fairly boiled over at this point.

"Mr. Latimore staid in the house a good while, and then went out. His brother had left word that he would return for the money he wanted. And I heard Mr. Latimore say to his wife that it was all planned to come back. She never answered him. She walked out of the room as proud as she could hold her head. After the men were out, I made an excuse to go to Mrs. Latimore's room. She was sobbing as if her heart would break. I stole away—I did not want her to know I heard. About an hour after I went to her room again—and what do you think the poor thing was doing? She was sorting some faded ribbons and looking at some letters she got from her mother when she went to school.

"I was sitting near a window; Mrs. Latimore gave me a book to look at, a book her mother gave her. My back was to the door; the door was open. All at once I heard Mrs. Latimore cry out in a startled way, and when I turned around there was Mr. Latimore grasping her arm, looking at her with the most devilish look I ever saw in a man's eyes.

He reached out his other hand and grabbed up the letters. I knew I would find you looking over Alf's old love letters, damn you," says he, shaking her and flinging her on the floor.

"She got up without saying a word. She was going out of the room. As she passed me she said: 'Sally, when Mr. Latimore is kind enough to give you my mother's letters and ribbons, you will bring them to me.'

"Mr. Latimore wasn't in the house long before a telegraph message came to him—a message he had sent to himself, calling him out of town some where—that all came out afterward.

"When we were alone Mrs. Latimore called me to her and told me to be sure and say to Alf Latimore, if he came, that she wasn't feeling well, and that her husband wasn't at home. She said after what had passed that day that on no account whatever could she allow Alf to enter the house in her husband's absence.

"As I was of the same mind, be sure I was ready to give Mr. Alf his orders. I thought if he was a man he would not need a second hint. But, fortunately, Mr. Alf never came near the house that day. It was one of the longest days in my life. I remember I told Mrs. Latimore that if Alf came I was like her husband, I'd never get married."

"To be sure; I don't blame you a mite," said Bill. "'Twas the most nateral thing in the world."

"It was a clear day, but that evening it began to storm, so I closed the shutters earlier than usual. Mrs. Latimore made a pretense of reading, but I could see as I went in and out of the room that her mind wasn't on her book. We went to bed earlier than usual that night. The wind rose, then it rained hard, and I fell asleep.

"I am not very timerous, but I was fearful that night. I think what happened through the day was on my mind. Anyhow, along in the night some time I was sure I heard some one come in the house.

"I was sure I had locked the door and turned the night latch so no one could get in. I got up in the dark and listened. Jeff will tell you I have good ears."

"Beats everything how she can fix sound—goes right to the spot every time," said Jeff proudly.

"I was sleeping in a spare bed room at one end of the hall on the second floor; Mrs. Latimore acknowledged she felt a little timid that night. I opened my door and listened, and everything seemed as still as the grave. I stood there a long while, and not hearing anything I thought that I must have been mistaken.

"I fell asleep again, and something woke me up again just as I woke the first time. Then I was sure I heard a sound in Mrs. Latimore's room. I got up again, opened my room door and looked out.

"There was a wide landing at the head of the first flight of stairs. Wide enough for a great big mirror. Then there was a narrow hall leading to the spare bedroom. Looking out of the door I could see down the stairs almost to the bottom.

"I was sure I saw a man at the foot of the stairs when I looked out the second time. There was a window beside the mirror with heavy curtains. It was to give light for the head of the landing and for the mirror.

"When I saw the man, my heart rose to my mouth; I was so frightened I couldn't have said a word if my life depended on it at first."

"I know just how you felt," said Bill; "like a fellow with 'buck ague.'"

"I stood there watching the man stealing slowly up the stairs—I couldn't have spoken if my life had been taken—I watched him from the foot of the stairs to the top. The light was so dim where I stood that I could not make out what the man looked like.

"When he came to the head of the stairs, I saw him put one hand out quickly, then I heard Mr. Latimore's voice shouting, 'God damn you! Take that! I've got you now!'

"There was a flash of light; and such a face!—I never saw a man's face look as devilish as Mr. Latimore's when the glass jingled in a shower on the landing. I ran out like wild at him; I was sure he had shot his wife.

"'You've killed her!' I shouted.

"'No, damn her!' he answered, 'but I will kill her now!' He grasped my arm as he spoke. 'If you stir I will shoot you too!'

"And at that minute Mrs. Latimore's door opened, lighting up the landing, and he saw that he had mistaken himself in the mirror for his brother Alf."

There was an interval of a minute or more, in which the listeners looked at each other in profound silence. Then Old Bill lifted a hand, exclaiming, "By hok

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Sixteen to One.

E. G., Moline, O., asks: "What is meant by 16 to 1, and how did it originate in regard to free coinage of silver?"

At the time the coinage law was passed, in 1834, 16 ounces of silver bullion was equal in value to one ounce of gold bullion. Hence the law made the silver dollar contain just 16 times as much silver by weight, as the weight of gold in the gold dollar. Thus the gold dollar and silver dollar were then of the same value; the metal in each was equal in value to the metal in the other.

Now, it takes 30 to 32 ounces of silver to be worth as much as an ounce of gold. Yet the free coinage men insist that we ought to go on coining silver dollars in unlimited quantities, when they are worth only about half as much as a gold dollar.

Farmers Selling Tobacco.

C. P. V., Springdale, Kan., and W. A. B., Blunt C. H., Va.: Inquiry of the internal revenue officials develops the fact that all laws restricting the sale of leaf tobacco by the farmers to retail it have been repealed. A farmer can sell the leaf tobacco, in any quantity, large or small, to any one; but it must be in the leaf, not manufactured in any form. That is, it must be in the leaf only.

The Number of Representatives.

J. A. L., Jerico, Mo.: You are in error. The number of Representatives in Congress is not fixed by law at 356. After the taking of the census each decade, Congress decides on the ratio of representation, which remains fixed for ten years, until the next census is taken. In 1893 Congress fixed the ratio for the next ten years at one Representative for every 173,901 inhabitants. That gave 356 Representatives apportioned among the states then in the Union. Whenever new states are admitted, their Representatives are in addition to this number, for the constitution provides that every state shall have at least one Representative. Utah's Representative increases the number to 357.

The War of 1812.

J. S., Springfield, Ill., asks: "Did the United States government agree to indemnify Great Britain by the payment of money or cession of territory for losses sustained by Great Britain during the war of 1812?"

No. There was no such provision in the treaty of Ghent, which closed the war.

Aluminum.

S., Erie, Mo.: The metal aluminum is made by the electric furnace. We are not familiar with the process, which is to some extent a secret. We do not know what earth is used as an ore. There is no manufactory further West than Cleveland and Cincinnati, we think.

Pending Patents.

W. B. C., Woodworth, Wis., asks: "Kindly explain how the words 'patent pending,' or 'patent applied for,' printed on an article, protects the inventor? Also, how can one obtain the number of patents, in case he wishes to send for duplicates?"

Sometimes an inventor, after applying for a patent, and before it is granted, goes to manufacturing and selling his invention. If any one manufactured one for his own use, and a patent were granted, he would be liable for an infringement. The only way to find the number of any patent issued is by referring to the Patent Office Gazette, in which the specifications of all patents are printed.

Kaffir Corn.

Several dozen persons have written to us asking where to get Kaffir corn. We will not print such addresses, for the reason it is free advertising. Any dealer in seeds can furnish it. We find the seedsmen whose catalogues have been reviewed within the past few weeks in the Farmstead; or look up some seedsman's advertisement in some farm journal; or go to any grocery store which sells flower and garden seeds, and get the address of the seedsman who puts up those seeds from one of the packages.

Government Revenues.

C. M., Buckeye, W. Va.: The statement you send us is misleading, in that it takes the receipts under the McKinley law during the time the Democratic congress was preparing a new tariff bill, when all importers were bringing in only the smallest amount of goods, and waiting for the lower duties before importing heavily; and comparing these receipts with those of the first months of the Wilson law. The true comparison is this:

The contrast between the Wilson law in its first seventeen months and that of the McKinley law in its first seventeen months is startling. The Wilson law, as already indicated, has an acknowledged deficiency of $24,842,000, while in fact the deficit is over $100,000,000. While the McKinley law in its first seventeen months showed a surplus of over $20,810,198. The receipts under the Wilson law in its first seventeen months amount, in round numbers to $429,000,000, while those of the McKinley law in its first seventeen months amounted to $512,081,723. Even in its last seventeen months when importers were holding back their dutiable imports and thus reducing its receipts to an abnormally low figure, the McKinley law did far better than the Wilson law has done in the extremely advantageous parts which it has had in its first seventeen months. The receipts in the closing seventeen months of the McKinley law were $450,000,000, while those of the Wilson law were $429,000,000 in round numbers in the first seventeen months of the Wilson law.

Silver and Gold.

G. M., Weston, Ill., writes: "I fail to understand why it is that when silver was demonetized and at a premium of 3 per cent, and the relative amounts of gold and silver are no greater now at 16 to 1 than they where at that time, why it is that, with an equal chance of coinage, silver would not be at least on a par with gold at the same ratio."

Your statement is wrong in one particular. The relative amounts of gold and silver are not the same now as they were in 1873. The great bonanza silver mines of the West were just beginning to produce then. The volume of silver has been enormously increased in the 22 years since it ceased its use for coin has been enormously diminished.

Second, you do not appear to see that a law of the United States could not affect the status of silver in the countries of Europe, which have stopped its coinage since 1873.

The plain fact is, that the relative values of silver and gold have been permanently changed since 1873, and no legislation possible can bring back the market ratio then existing.

Pension Questions.

A. H., Cross Keys, Ore., asks: "Are postmasters obliged to fill out and execute pension vouchers, if asked to do so by a pensioner?"

No, he is not obliged to do so. The law allows them to do so, but does not compel.

M. E. N., Spring Grove, Ill.: You can not get a pension under the law of 1890, as you were married after the law passed; but if you can prove that he died of wounds or disease contracted in the service, you can obtain a widow's pension under the old law.

B. W. H., Denver, Colo.: Unfortunately, there is no legal way to make a pensioner use his pension money for the benefit of his wife and family. If he wastes it in drink, it can not be helped.

J. K. L., Marshalltown, Iowa: The decision of the United States Supreme court is, that a pensioner's pension money is his own, and that the officials of a soldiers' home, either national or state, can not take it from him.

The Bond Issues.

R. H. B., Bellmore, Ind., writes: "In conversation with a prominent Democrat, he made the following positive assertion: 'It is an undisputed fact that, four years ago, under Harrison's administration, before the Republican party went out of power, Congress had decided to issue bonds to obtain money, and the plates for the same had been prepared. But when they met defeat at the hands of the Democratic party, they stopped all further procedure, and then Grover Cleveland had to issue the bonds.' I at once disputed it, and claimed it an untruth. Please reply through the columns of the loyal old Blade."

Your Democratic friend has the facts incorrectly. The Presidential election occurred in November, 1892. Congress met in December a month later. The triumph of the Democratic party caused a feeling of distrust to spring up at once, among business and financial men, that if the tariff and silver and the absence of knowledge as to what the Democratic majority in the next Congress would do, were the reasons for this. There was at that time, as there had been all through 1892, an adequate, a large amount of "free gold" in the Treasury—that is gold over and above the $100,000,000 gold reserve. As the distrust deepened, the free gold slowly diminished. About the February, 1893, it began to look as though all the free gold would go, and the hundred millions gold reserve be trenched upon. Secretary of the Treasury Charles Foster determined not to allow the reserve to fall below the hundred-million mark, and a bill was introduced in Congress allowing the government to sell 3 per cent bonds to replenish the gold reserve, if necessary. Secretary Foster directed the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to prepare plates for the bonds. But the Republican Congress—remember, it was the Congress elected in 1890; that the Democrats 53d Congress did not meet until Cleveland convened it in extra session in August, 1893—the Republican Congress did not deem the necessity so great as did Secretary Foster, and refused to pass the bill. The plates for the bonds were never completed. The bonds issued by Cleveland were in pursuance of the act of 1875, and the wording on them entirely different. But the gold did not fall below the hundred million mark until after Cleveland was in office. These are the facts, given to the writer by Secretary Foster himself.

Goods in Bond.

V. H. H., St. Joseph, Mo., asks: "What is the meaning of 'appraised' and 'unappraised' goods in bond? Please explain what is the meaning of the word 'bond' in regard to the above? Also, where is the duty collected on dutiable goods imported to this country?"

When dutiable goods arrive from abroad at a port of entry in the United States—New York or Boston, for instance—they are first appraised; that is, their value is ascertained and the amount of duty to be paid is fixed. If the importer wishes, he can pay the duty at once, and take the goods. However, it is often inconvenient to do this. In that case, after the goods are appraised, they are placed in a government warehouse, the importer giving bond for the payment of the duty. They can remain no longer than one year "in bond"—that is, in the warehouse, with bond for payment of duty. They are charged storage as long as they remain, and this storage is by law a first lien upon them. The duty is paid at the custom-house where the goods are imported.

Life Saving Crews.

M. W. A., Montague, Mich., asks: "Have men employed by the government in life saving stations on the beach of Lake Michigan a right to vote and hold office in school districts and townships?"

The fact that they are in government service does not affect their citizenship. If they are citizens of the state, county and township, they are eligible to vote and hold office, just as are other citizens. If they are not citizens, they are not. Their being employed in the life-saving service gives no rights nor privileges.

Our Liquor Bill.

E. D. H., Florida, O.: J. F. S., Savoy, Tex.: A. P. K., Kerr, O.: For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894—the latest figures at hand—the total production and importation of liquors in the United States was as follows:

Produced in this country:—

	Gallons.
Distilled liquors	92,133,650
Malt liquors	33,362,373
Wines	24,306,905
Imported from abroad:—	
Malt liquors	2,010,540
Distilled liquors	1,091,353
Wines	2,399,693

The total value of the imported liquors was as follows: Malt, $1,510,767; distilled, $1,499,604; wines, $6,739,408.

We do not find the values of the liquors produced in the United States.

There are no reliable statistics of the death rate caused by intoxicants.

American Scientists Abroad.

L. A. L., Siloam Springs, Mo., asks: "Will you please tell what per cent of our railroads and manufactories is owned by Great Britain? The Populists are making a terrible scarecrow of that subject."

To say "Great Britain," means the government of that country; and it does not own a dollar's worth of them. What the Populists mean, is the stock or bonds of railroads and manufacturing companies in the United States, owned by Englishmen or other foreigners. There is no means of knowing what per cent of the total capitalization, including bonds, is owned by Englishmen. There is nothing in it, however, to be afraid of. It is just the same as a man in Toledo owning stock in a Missouri lead mine, or in a Colorado silver mine. There is no possible danger to the country in it.

The Prime Minister.

W. L. F., Kasson, Minn., writes: "I note recently that Premier Greenway, of Manitoba, dissolved his ministry, as also did Premier Rosebery, of England. Can you, please, inform me of their powers of government, and what are the powers of a Premier?"

The government of the Dominion of Canada, and of its provinces, are modeled after that of Great Britain. An explanation referring to the latter will cover the ground.

The sovereign, in England, has really very little power. The functions of the head of the government are mainly discharged by the Premier, or Prime Minister. This official is appointed by the sovereign, and always from the party which has a majority in the House of Commons. The Premier sits in that House, and introduces measures to be enacted into laws. If a bill thus introduced is defeated, the Prime Minister must do one of two things; He must resign, and allow the sovereign to appoint a new Prime Minister from the opposite party; or he may ask the sovereign to dissolve Parliament, and appeal to the country on the question, through a new election of members of Parliament. In the latter case, if the new House of Commons has a majority for the Premier's party, he continues in office; if the other party has a majority, he resigns at once, and a new Premier is appointed from the party of the majority.

Miscellaneous.

A. N. H., Erie, Pa.: So far, we can find no such tables. Try the Scientific American, New York.

A. S., Crown Point, Ind.: We have no idea, but Spain must have taken many millions in gold and silver from Mexico and American colonies within a century after the conquest.

E. E. W., Everett, Pa.: We are unable to answer. Address a letter of inquiry to "Herr H. Von Flotow, Second Secretary of Legation, German Embassy, Washington, D. C."

B. F. H., P. J. R., Oostburg, Wis.: So far as we can ascertain, the boundary between Michigan and Wisconsin is the middle of the lake. Hence Michigan has no rights on the Wisconsin shore.

D. B. N. M., Pueblo, Col.: In the Question Bureau of Weekly Blade of January 23, you will find the list of the Supreme judges, when appointed, and from what states. Fuller, Field, White and Peckham are Democrats; the other five Republicans.

C. W. E., St. George, Kan.: The question of compelling members of a legislative assembly, a society or organization to vote is one which must be settled by the rules which it adopts. There is no general parliamentary rule for compelling them to vote.

H. G. M., Bright, Tenn.: There is absolutely no ground for the error that the parentage of either Abraham Lincoln or Alexander Hamilton was doubtful. There is no possible ground for any statement of the sort, as both are known to have been born in lawful wedlock.

The Modern Way

Commends itself to the well-informed, to do pleasantly and effectually what was formerly done in the crudest manner and disagreeably as well. To cleanse the system and break up colds, headaches, and fevers without unpleasant after effects, use the delightful liquid laxative remedy, Syrup of Figs. Manufactured by California Fig Syrup Company.

A Precautionary Measure.

"He skates very gracefully," said one young woman to another. "I asked him to teach me."

"And is he going to?"

"Yes. He says he'll begin next summer. The first thing to do if you are going to skate in this climate is to learn to swim."—Washington Star.

The Same Thing.

"What are you doing here?" 'asked Mr. Taddells to a tramp, whom he found suspiciously near his henhouse.

"Lookin' fer work," was the wanderer's reply.

"You mean looking for trouble, don't you?"

"Well, isn't work trouble?"—Judge.

He Was Completely Blind

Owing to Humor and Sores on His Face and Eyes

Hospital Treatment Failed—But Hood's Sarsaparilla Made Pure Blood and a Perfect Cure.

Alfie Mason

The case related here is by no means a rare or unusual one for Hood's Sarsaparilla to cure. Thousands of children have suffered from foul humors in the blood, and many who have been blind from this cause, have been restored to perfect health and sight by this great medicine. Such evidence as this must convince anyone that Hood's Sarsaparilla is the great blood purifier. It cures scrofula, salt rheum and every other form of blood disease.

"Jersey City, N. J., Oct. 21, 1894.
"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:
"Dear Sirs: I am thankful for the good Hood's Sarsaparilla has done our boy. At the age of two years, he caught a severe cold and it settled in his eyes and his face became covered with scabs, which the doctor said was

An Attack of Eczema.

We tried different physicians in Jersey City and New York City but he got little relief. I finally took him to a hospital and his face was termed the worst case the surgeons had ever treated. He was under their care for six months and the eczema on his face was better, but it had become worse in his eyes, and

He Was Now Blind

and could not see his hand before him. Every attention had to be given him as he could do nothing for himself. I had read and heard much about Hood's Sarsaparilla, and made up my mind to try it in his case. After taking the first two bottles we could see a change in his eyes, the ulcers which caused the blindness being less virulent. I was advised to take him to a hospital, but I said I would continue with Hood's Sarsaparilla, and thanks be to it, he soon regained his sight and is now, at six years of age, a

Fat, Strong and Healthy

lad. I hope every mother will take my advice, which is to use Hood's Sarsaparilla for every form of sickness. It will save lots of money, trouble and worry. I speak from experience and I assure you I shall never cease praising Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. A. W. MASON, 150 Phillips Street.

Be sure to Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

AN AGE OF DICTIONARIES.

Many Recent Editions of Both British and American Origin.

Makers of English dictionaries have been peculiarly active in this last decade of the nineteenth century. Not only has the most extended English dictionary of British origin begun to appear in that time, but two large dictionaries of American origin have been published. The effort has been to popularize many-volumed dictionaries, and for the first time since there began to be great single-volume dictionaries of American origin they have found rivals in the affections of the people. It has almost been forgotten that the first really popular large English dictionary was originally issued in two volumes. That dictionary, in spite of the fact that it had a rival of home manufacture for more than thirty years, is still in many parts of the country the only large dictionary known to the public, and it is the only one whose name has become literally a household word. The most popular dictionary produced here is striving to make itself popular in the peculiar field of the earlier single-volume dictionaries, and has had resort to an expensive style of advertising hitherto unknown in the history of dictionaries.

Meanwhile, although scholars, librarians, and large schools have purchased the new many-volumed dictionaries, the single-volume dictionaries have continued to sell, and one of them has had a wide circulation in an unauthorized cheap edition, made from an edition on which the copyright has expired. Thousands who were deterred from buying the dictionary in its original form, but who were anxious to own a large dictionary, have bought the cheap unauthorized edition.

This particular edition was bound in cloth, an unsuitable binding for so large a volume. The cloth-bound edition of one of the new many-volumed dictionaries was designed to popularize in some measure an expensive work, but already copies of this edition, where much used, are being rebound in leather. The incomplete great dictionary of British origin has appeared from time to time in paper-bound parts, and later in leather-bound volumes.

It has happened that the many-volumed dictionaries have had things apparently their own way, because the great single-volume dictionaries have not recently issued new editions. But several small and well-made English dictionaries of British origin have meanwhile attained considerable popularity in the United States. The dictionary makers are usually careful to conceal from the public the fact that a new edition is to be issued, lest it stop the sale of current editions. For several years past there has been a persistent denial that a new edition of one of the large single-volume dictionaries was to be issued, but the rumor has persisted in publishing circles. The next edition of either of these works will probably be, like the present edition, in a single volume, as it was in that form that the two attained their greatest popularity. The cheapening of book-making processes and the increased competition from other dictionaries may result in bringing down the price of the single-volume dictionaries according to the New York Sun. It is hardly suspected that since Dr. Johnson's dictionary was first issued in 1755 more than 150 dictionaries of general English have appeared in Great Britain and America, which is at the rate of rather more than one new dictionary a year.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Accommodating.

"Lend me 20 marks, will you? I haven't a cent in my pocket."

The Professor—Here's a hundred mark piece for you. Give me 80 marks change.—Journal Amusant.

Had Heard of It.

"Baroness, have you heard already that—"

"Is it a secret, your highness?"

"Yes."

"Then I have already heard it."—Fliegende Blaetter.

A Schemer.

He—I'm afraid I couldn't make you happy, darling, on only $2,000 a year.

She—Oh, it's plenty! With economy I can dress on $1,500, and just think, dear, we can have all the rest for household expenses!—Life.

Her Reply.

"Papa," inquired a small girl at the dinner table the other evening, "what's a millionaire?" Dorothy Smith said to me today, 'Your father's a millionaire.'"

"What did you say?" asked the small girl's father.

"Oh, I just' said, 'So's yours.'"—New York Evening Sun.

A Modest Wayfarer.

The Lady—Now I hope you won't spend this money for that vile liquor.

The Tramp—Well, mum, I'll do me best; but I'm not a connysoor, an' I generally has to drink it afore I can tell whether it's good or bad.—Judge.

Worked for Pay.

Mrs. Jones (to colored youth who has shoveled off her walk)—You have shoveled off the walk very nicely, and here is a quarter for you. My own little boy is too lazy to shovel snow, and is away playing somewhere.

Tommy Jones (pocketing the quarter)—Don't worry about your own little boy, mammy; I thought you wouldn't know me with burnt cork on my face.—Judge.

Her Little Sorrow.

"Of course I shouldn't want to stand in the way of anything that you feel like doing in the way of New Year's reformation," she said. "But it does seem too bad——"

"What seems too bad, my dear?" asked her husband.

"That you should feel obliged to stop smoking just after I have given you those lovely Christmas cigars."—Washington Star.

FROM MANASSAS TO APPOMATTOX.

GENERAL LONGSTREET'S NEW BOOK ON THE CIVIL WAR.

His Personal Experiences During the Conflict—Estimate of the Leaders of Confederate Cause.

The most notable contribution to the history of the great Rebellion in recent years is General Longstreet's book, "From Manassas to Appomattox," just published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. It is, in a sense, a biography of the Confederate lieutenant general, as it begins with his ancestry and birth, and in a concluding chapter sketching his life since the contest closed.

This volume will likely call out a good deal of discussion. Longstreet's judgment on military movements is acknowledged by all. He speaks by the card, for all the great movements of the war on the Southern side passed under his own personal eye. And his judgment of the Southern leaders is by no means in agreement with the general opinion in the South, nor yet with Northern sentiment.

Of the Southern generals, it is easy to gather Longstreet's opinion that Gen. Joe Johnston as the most capable of all. He points out in a plain way how repeated blunders were made by General Lee, not only in the planning of his campaigns, but also in the fighting of his battles. His opinion of General Early is that he was the weakest of those who were placed in high positions, with the possible exception of Gen. G. W. Smith, whom he speaks of with an accent of contempt. He finds little to commend in the operations of General Bragg; and he gives some practical reasons for believing that Gen Stonewall Jackson was considerably overestimated, and owed much of his reputation to a systematic indulgence and concealment of his mistakes on the part of his superiors, who belonged, like himself, to the Virginia mutual admiration society.

GEN. JAMES LONGSTREET.

While it is certain, as we now look back at the gigantic struggle, that the Confederacy could not have come save through foreign aid, Longstreet plainly shows that its cause often met with defeat and misfortune through the incapacity of its leaders. He particularly emphasizes the fact that the arrogance, the selfishness, and the enmities of Jefferson Davis constantly interfered with the proper and effective prosecution of the war. Men of superior merit were thrust into the background for personal reasons; valuable suggestions were treated with disdain because they came from unpopular sources; and prospects of success were more than once sacrificed to gratify petty spites and prevent given individuals from gaining credit. There was continual pulling at cross purposes among those who should have heartily and thoroughly co-operated. The troops fought well on every occasion, but their service was frequently rendered futile by the follies of those who commanded them. General Longstreet's book will hardly tend to restore him to the favor that he enjoyed in the South before he exercised the right of acting upon his own convictions in politics; but it is a manifestly honest book, and one of the most interesting of all the many that have been written about the civil war.

Longstreet graduated from West Point in 1842, was assigned to the 4th Infantry as brevet lieutenant, the regiment being stationed at Jefferson Barracks. The next year Grant was assigned to the same regiment with the same rank. "I had the pleasure," the author says, "to ride with him on our first visit to Mr. Frederick Dent's home, a few miles from the garrison, where we first met Miss Julia Dent, the charming woman, who, five years later, became Mrs. Grant. Miss Dent was a frequent visitor at the garrison balls and hops, when Lieut. Hoskins, who was something of a tease, would inquire of her if she could tell him where he might find 'the small lieutenant with the large epaulettes.'"

Grant and Longstreet served together in the Mexican war, had then drifted apart; and when Fort Sumter was fired upon in 1861, the latter was acting as an army paymaster at Albuquerque, N. M. He at once decided to "go with his state," resigned his commission, and accordingly tendered his resignation, which was accepted, to take effect on the 1st of June.

Longstreet's first battle was Bull Run, July 21, 1861. His long account of it is graphic, and the following extracts are interesting:

McDowell had an aggregate of 35,000 men, and the Confederate forces aggregated 30,000.

The first pouring-down volleys were most startling to the new troops. Part of my line broke and started at a run. To stop the alarm I rode with saber in hand for the leading files, determined to give them all that was in my sword and my horse's heels, or stop the break. They seemed to see as much danger in their front as in mine, and soon turned and marched back to their places, to the evident surprise of the enemy. * * *

As the experience of both commanders was limited to staff service, it is not surprising that they failed to appreciate the importance of prompt and vigorous maneuvers in the hour of battle. Beauregard gave indications of a comprehensive military mind and resource; but that night, for want of sufficient and thorough encouragement from the superior authorities, have developed him into eminence as a field marshal. His adversary seemed unforward, not adapted to military organization or combinations. Most of his men got back to Washington under the sheltering wings of the small bands of regulars. The supplies of subsistence, ammunition and forage massed and marched through the enemy's camps toward Centerville seemed ample to carry the Confederate army on to Washington. Had the fight been continued to that point, the troops, in their high hopes, would have marched in terrible effectiveness against the demoralized Federals. Gaining confidence and vigor in their march, they could well have reached the capital with the ranks of McDowell's men.

The experience of Bull Run had a sobering effect on both sides, and neither cared to assume the aggressive. There was much scouting and reconnoitering, and some minor engagements, but no general movement. The months passed, and the armies remained confronting each other while their commanders studied the problem. Finally, in the last week of March, 1862, Gen. McClellan pushed three corps out and concentrated them on the James river. About the same time Gen. Johnston was summoned to Richmond to discuss the situation with the authorities, and at his solicitation Gens. Longstreet and G. W. Smith accompanied him. Of this interview Gen. Longstreet says:

The secretary of war and Gen. R. E. Lee were with the President when we met. It was the first time that I had been called to such august presence to deliberate on momtous matters, so I had nothing to say till called on. The views intended to be offered were perfaced by saying that I knew Gen. McClellan; that he was a military engineer, and would move his army by careful measurement and preparation; that he would not be ready to advance before the 1st of May. The President interrupted, and spoke of McClellan's high attainments and capacity in a style indicating that he did not care to hear any one talk who did not have the same appreciation of our great adversary. McClellan had been a special favorite with Mr. Davis when he was secretary of war in the Pierce administration, and he seemed to take such reflections upon his favorites as somewhat personal. From the hasty interruption I concluded that my opinion had only been asked through polite recognition of my presence, not that it was wanted, and said no more.

As the result of McClellan's advance to the Chickahominy, battle was offered at Seven Pines, or Fair Oaks, on May 31, 1862, continuing two days.

In the evening of the first day Johnston was wounded and the command devolved upon Gen. G. W. Smith. Longstreet contends that but for the incapacity, if not the cowardice of Smith, the Confederates would have gained the victory. He gives his opinion of that officer in these pointed observations:

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He reported sick on the 2d and left the army. When ready for duty he was assigned about Richmond and the seaboard of North Carolina. He applied to be restored to command of his division in the field, but the authorities thought his services could be used better elsewhere. He resigned his command in the Confederate service, went to Georgia, and joined Joe Brown's militia, where he found congenial service, better suited to his ideas of vigorous warfare.

Gen. Lee superseded Johnston, taking command in the afternoon of the second day at Seven Pines, and giving the final order for the troops to retire to their former lines. The army was not pleased with this change, Longstreet tells us, and did not have full confidence in the new commander's ability for field service, he being known only as a military engineer.

Longstreet gives an interesting account of the fighting along the Chickahominy in the last week of June, when McClellan was making his change of base to the James river. Malvern Hill was selected as the best place for a final stand against the pursuing Confederates, and Longstreet writes of the terrific battle there July 1:

The Confederates attacked in splendid style, making repeated brave charges, but they were as firmly met by the enemy, and their dead and wounded were mingled on the same lines. The Confederate ranks thinning rapidly, Magruder called on me for reinforcements, and Jackson was sent to reinforce D. H. Hill's left, but night closed in upon us before the reinforcements could get into action.

As the order for battle had been given about noon, and had been abandoned some hours before the repelling upon receiving Magruder's call, I supposed the conflict had been brought on by the enemy to force our right back and better clear the route of his retreat. I ordered A. P. Hill direct to Magruder, and in my own division for support on our extreme right. The result of the battle was a repulse of the confederates along the entire line and the sacrifice of several thousand brave officers and men, though some of our troops held ground nearer the enemy than at the onset of the battle. During the night the enemy resumed his march for the river, leaving his dead, some of his wounded, and exhibiting other marks of the precipitate character of his reteat.

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The failure of concert of action by the Confederates should not discount the conduct of McClellan's masterly retreat. In the emergency he showed himself well equipped in the science of war, and prepared to cross swords with his able adversary. At the opening of the campaign he had in hand 105,000 men. Gen. Lee's returns were not accurately made, but fair estimate puts his numbers between 80,000 and 85,000.

Some critics say that McClellan should have taken Richmond during the campaign. The great Napoleon would have done so after the disaster of Malvern Hill with his regularly organized army of veterans. They say, too, that Lee should have captured McClellan and his army. So thought Gen. Lee, but circumstances and prospects of success were more than once sacrificed to gratify petty spites and prevent given individuals from gaining credit. There was continual pulling at cross purposes among those who should have heartily and thoroughly co-operated. The troops fought well on every occasion, but their service was frequently rendered futile by the follies of those who commanded them. General Longstreet's book will hardly tend to restore him to the favor that he enjoyed in the South before he exercised the right of acting upon his own convictions in politics; but it is a manifestly honest book, and one of the most interesting of all the many that have been written about the civil war.

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Talmage's Sermon.

THE RANSOMED AND REDEEMED WALK THEREIN.

The Highway of Holiness—The Wayfaring Men Shal Not Err Therein—No Lion There.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Rev. Dr. Talmage's sermon for yesterday was a picture of the road that many have traveled and others are trying to get on, and this is no more appropriate for the Capital of the nation than for all places. The text chosen was Isaiah xxxv., 8, 9, 10, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those, the wayfaring men, though fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there; and the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrows and sighings shall flee away."

There are hundreds of people in this house who want to find the right road. You sometimes see a person halting at cross roads, and you tell by his looks that he wishes to ask a question as to what direction he had better take. And I stand in your presence conscious of the fact that there are many of you here who realize that there are a thousand wrong roads, but only one right one; and I take it for granted that you have come in to ask which one it is. Here is one road that opens widely, but I have not much faith in it. There are a great many expensive toll gates scattered all along that way. Indeed, at every rod you must pay in tears, or pay in genuflexions, or pay in flagellations. On that road if you get through it at all, you have to pay your own way; and since this differs so much from what I have heard in regard to the right way, I believe it is the wrong way. Here is another road. On either side of it are houses of sinful entertainment, and invitations to come in and dine and rest; but from the looks of the people who stand on the piazza, I am certain it is the wrong house and the wrong way. Here is another road. It is very beautiful and macadamized. The horses's hoofs clatter and ring, and they who ride over it spin along the highway until suddenly they find that the road breaks over an embankment, and they try to halt, and they saw the bit in the mouth of the fiery steed, and cry "Ho! ho!" But it is too late, and—crash!—they go over the embankment. We shall turn and see if we can not find a different kind of road. You have heard of the Appian Way. It was 350 miles long. It was 24 feet wide, and on either side of the road was a path for foot passengers.

It was made of rocks cut in hexagonal shape, and fitted together. What a road it must have been! Made of smooth, hard rock, three hundred and fifty miles long. No wonder that in the construction of it the treasures of a whole empire were exhausted. Because of invaders, and the elements, and Time—the old conqueror who tears up a road as he goes over it—there is nothing left of that structure but a ruin. But I have to tell you of a road built before the Appian Way was built, yet as good as when first constructed. Millions of souls have gone over it. Millions more will come.

The prophets and apostles, too,
Pursued this road while here below;
We therefore will, without dismay,
Still walk in Christ, the good old way.

First, this road of the text is the King's highway. In the diligence you dash on over the Bernard pass of the Alps, mile after mile, and there is not so much as a pebble in the way of the wheels. You go over bridges which cross chasms that make you hold your breath; under projecting rocks; along by dangerous precipices; through tunnels adrip with the moistures of the glaciers, and, perhaps for the first time, learn the majesty of a road built and supported by governmental authority. Well, my Lord the King decided to build a highway from the earth to heaven. It should span the chasms of human wretchedness; it should tunnel all the mountains of of earthly difficulty; it should be wide enough and strong enough to hold fifty thousand millions of the human race, if so many of them should ever be born. It should be blasted out of the "Rock of Ages," and cemented with the blood of the Cross, and be lifted amidst the shoutings of the hosts of the exceration of devils. The King sent his Son to build that road. He put head, and hand, and heart to it, and after the road was completed waved his blistered hand over it the way, crying: "It is finished!" Napoleon paid fifty million francs for the building of the Simplon road, that his cannon might go over for the devastation of Italy; but our King, at greater expense, has built a road for a different purpose, that the banner of heavenly dominion might come down over it. Being a King's highway, of course it is well built. Bridges splendidly arched and buttressed have given way and crushed the passengers who attempted to cross them. But Christ, the King, would build no such thing as that. The work done, he mounts the throne of his love, and multitudes mount with him, and he drives on and up the steep of heaven amid the plaudits of gazing worlds! "The work is done—well done—gloriously done—magnificently done."

Still further; this road spoken of is a clean road. Many a fine road has become miry and foul because it has not been properly cared for. Now the text says the unclean shall not walk on this one. Room on either side to throw away your sins, indeed, if you want to carry them along you are not on the right road. That bridge will break, those overhanging rocks will fall, the night will come down, leaving you at the mercy of the mountain bandits, and at the very next turn of the road you will perish. But if you are really on this clean road or which I have been speaking, then you will ston over and anon to wash in the water that stands in the basin of the eternal rock.

Aye, at almost every step of the journey you will be crying out: "Create within me a clean heart." If you have no such aspirations as that, it proves that you have mistaken your way; and if you will only look up and see the Inscription-board above your head, you may read upon it the words: "There is a way that seeketh right unto a man, but the end thereof is death." Without holiness no man shall see the Lord, and if you have any idea that you can carry along your sins, your rusts, your worldliness, and yet get at the end of the Christian race, you are so awfully mistaken that, in the name of God, I undeceive the delusion.

Still further: the road spoken of is a plain road. "The wayfaring man, though fools, shall not err therein." That is, if a man is three-fourths an idiot, he can find this road just as well as if he were a philosopher. The imbecile boy, the laughing stock of the street, and followed by a mob hooting at him, has only just to knock once at the gate of heaven, and it swings open; while there has been many a man who can lecture about pneumatics, and chemistry, and tell the story of Faraday's theory of electrical polarization, and yet has been shut out of heaven. There has been many a man who stood in an observatory, and swept the heavens with his telescope, and yet has not been able to see the morning star. Many a man has been familiar with all the higher branches of mathematics, and yet could not do the simple sum: "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Many a man has been a fine reader of tragedies and poems, and yet could not "read his title clear to mansions in the skies."

Many a man has botanized across the continent, and yet not known the "Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the Valley." But if one shall come in the right spirit, asking the way to heaven, he will find it a plain way. The pardon is plain. The place is plain. Everything is plain. He who tries to get on the road to heaven through the New Testament teaching will get on beautifully. He who goes through philosophical discussion will not get on at all. Christ says: "Come to me, and I will take all your sins away, and I will take all your troubles away." Now what is the use of my discussing it any more? Is not that plain? If you wanted to go to some city, and I pointed you out a highway thoroughly laid out, would I be wise in detaining you by a geological discussion about the gravel you will pass over, or a physiological discussion about the muscles you will have to bring into play? No. After the Bible has pointed you the way to heaven, is it wise for me to detain you with any discussion about the nature of the human will, or whether the atonement is limited or unlimated? There is the road—go on it. It is a plain way. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." And that is you and that is me. Any little child here can understand this as well as I can. "Unless you become as a little child, you cannot see that kingdom of God." If you are saved, it will be as a little child. "Of such is the kingdo mof heaven." Unless you get the spirit of little children, you will never come out at their glorious destiny.

Still further, this road to heaven is a safe road. Sometimes the traveler in those ancient highways would think himself perfectly secure, not knowing there was a lion by the way, burying his head deep between his paws, and then, when the right coment came, under the fearful spring the man's life was gone, and there was a mauled carcass by the roadside. But, says my text, "No lion shall be there." I wish I could make you feel your entire security. I tell you plainly that one minute after a man has became a child of God, he is safe though he had been ten thousand years in heaven. He may slip, he may slide, he may stumble; but he cannot be destroyed. Kept by the power of God, through faith, unto complete salvation. Everlastingly safe. The severest trial to which you can subject a Christian man is to kill him, and that is glory. In other words, the worst thing that can happen a child of God is heaven. The body is only the old slippers that he throws aside just before putting on the sandals of light. His soul, you cannot hurt it. No fires can consume it. No floods can drown it. No devils can capture it.

Firm and unmoved are they
Who rest their souls in God;
Fixed as the ground where David stood,
Or where the ark abode.

His soul is safe. His reputation is safe. Everything is safe. "But," you say, "suppose his store burns up." Why, then it will only be a change of investments from earthly to heavenly securities. "But," you say, "suppose his name goes down under the hoof of scorn and contempt?" The name will be so much brighter in glory. "Suppose his physical health fails? God will pour unto him the floods of everlasting health, and it will not make any difference. Earthly subtraction is heavenly addition. The tears of the earth are the crystals of heaven. As they take rags and tatters and put them through the paper mill, and they come out beautiful white sheets of paper, so often the rags of earthly destitution, under the cylinders of death, come out a white scroll upon which shall be written eternal emancipation. There was one passage of scripture the force of which I never understood until one day at Chamounix, with Mount Blanc on one side, and Montanvert on the other, I opened my Bible and read: "As the mountains are around about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about them that fear him." The surroundings were an omnipotent commentary.

Though troubles assail, and dangers affright;
Though friends should all fail, and foes all unite;
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
The Scripture assures us the Lord will provide.

Still further; the road spoken of is a pleasant road. God gives a bond of indemnity against all evil to every man that trusts in. "All things work together for good to those who love God." No weapon formed against them can prosper. That is the bond, signed, sealed, and delivered by the President of the whole universe. What is the use of your fretting, oh child of God, about food? "Behold the fowls of the air; for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet our he 'enly Father feedeth them." And will he take care of the sparrow, will he take ca e of the raven, will he take care of the hawk, and let you die? What is the use of your fretting about clothes? "Consider the lilies of the field. Shall he not much more clothe you, oh ye of little faith?" What is the use of worrying for fear something will happen to your home? "He blesseth the habitation of the just."

What is the use of your fretting lest you will be overcome of temptations? "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Oh, this King's highway! Trees of life on either side, bending over with their branches into interlock and drop midway their fruit and shade. Houses of entertainment on either side the rode for poor pilgrims. Tables spread with a feast of good things, and walls adorned with apples of gold in pictures of silver. I start out on this King's highway, and I find a harper, and I say, "What is your name?" The harper makes no response, but leaves me to guess, as with his eyes rolled toward heaven and his hand upon the trembling strings this tune comes rippling on the air: "The Lord is my light and my Salvation. Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid?" I go a little further on the same road and meet a trumpeter of heaven, and I say, "Haven't you got some music for a tired pilgrim?" And wiping his lip and taking a long breath he puts his mouth to a trumpet and pours forth this strain: "They shall hunger no more, neither shall they thirst any more, neither shall the sun light upon them, nor any heat, for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall lead them to living fountains of water, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." I go a little distance further on the same road, and I meet a maiden of Israel. She has no harp, but she has cymbals. They look as if they had rusted from sea-spray; and I say to the maiden of Israel: "Have you no song for a tired pilgrim?" And while the clang of victors' shields the cymbals clap as Miriam begins to discourse: "Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and the rider hath he thrown into the sea." And then I see a white-robed group. They come bounding toward me, and I say, "Who are they? The happiest, and the brightest, and the fairest in all heaven—who are they?" And the answer comes: "These are they who came out of great tribulations, and had their robes washed and made white in the blood of the lamb."

I pursue this subject only one step further. What is the terminus? I do not care how fine a road you put me on, I want to know where it comes out. My text declares it: "The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion." You know what Zion was. That was the King's palace. It was a mountain fastness. It was impregnable. And so heaven is the fastness of the universe. No howitzer has long enough range to shell those towers. Let all the batteries of earth and hell blaze away; they cannot breach those gates. Gibraltar was taken, Sebastopol was taken, Babylon fell, but these walls of heaven shall never surrender either to human or Satanic besiegement. The Lord God Almighty is the defense of it. Great capital of the universe! Terminus of the King's highway!

Dr. Dick said that among other things, he thought in heaven we would study chemistry and geometry, and conic sections. Southey thought that in heaven he would have the pleasure of seeing Chaucer and Shakespeare. Now, Dr. Dick may have his mathematics for all eternity and Southey his Shakespeare, but give me Christ and my old friends—that is all the heaven I want. Christ and His people that I knew on earth—that is heaven enough for me. O, garden of light, whose leaves never wither, and whose fruits never fail! O, banquet of God, whose sweetness never palls the taste, and whose guests are kings forever! O, city of light whose walls are salvation, and whose gates are praise! O, place of rest, where God is the monarch and everlasting ages the length of his reign! O, song louder than the surf beat of many waters, yet soft as the whisper of cherubim!

O, glorious heaven! When the last wound is healed, when the last heartbreak is ended, when the last tear of earthly sorrow is wiped away, and when the redeemed of the Lord shall come to Zion, then let all the harpers take down their harps, and all the trumpeters take down their trumpets, and all across heaven let there be chorus of morning stars, chorus of white-robed Marthers, chorus of martyrs from under the throne, chorus of ages, chorus of worlds, and there is but one song sung, and but one name spoken, and but one throne honored—that of Jesus only.

—Neglect of the hair often destroys its vitality and natural hue, and causes it to fall out. Before it is too late, apply Hall's Hair Renewer, a sure remedy.

EVERY SEVENTEEN MILES.

And the Poor Man Found There Was Only One Car.

It took place in a little overgrown town in the far West.

The man from the East had waited for two hours and seventeen minutes for an electric car.

When it arrived at last and he had climbed aboard he asked the conductor as he paid his fare: "No accidents this morning?"

"None, sir," replied the official.

"Running on schedule time?"

"We are."

"Nothing the matter with the generators?"

"Not a thing."

The questioner paused for a moment. Then he asked:

"Well, would you mind telling me just how far apart these cars run, then?"

"Not at all, sir," replied the man in blue; "every seventeen miles."

"Every seventeen miles!" repeated the Easterner. "How do you mean?"

"Track's seventeen miles long, and this is the only car."

Then the man from the East was satisfied.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

A Costly Privilege.

The medical school of Johns Hopkins University is open to women as well as to men. This is because the women of Baltimore provided over $420,000 toward endowing this medical department on condition that women should be admitted to its privileges.

From Birth

to death man is but organized dust supported by the energies of fuel-foods, of which (barring its bad taste) Cod-liver Oil is, by all odds, the best." So says a famous English physician.

In Scott's Emulsion, the bad taste of the Cod-liver Oil is completely overcome, making it the perfect food and remedy in consumption, anemia, and all forms of wasting complaints. It digests and agrees where other foods repel. No other emulsion is "the same," none "just as good."

50c. and $1.00 at all druggists.

TALE OF A SHEEP.

THE TAIL WEIGHED TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS, AND THIS ISN'T A FAIRY TALE, EITHER.

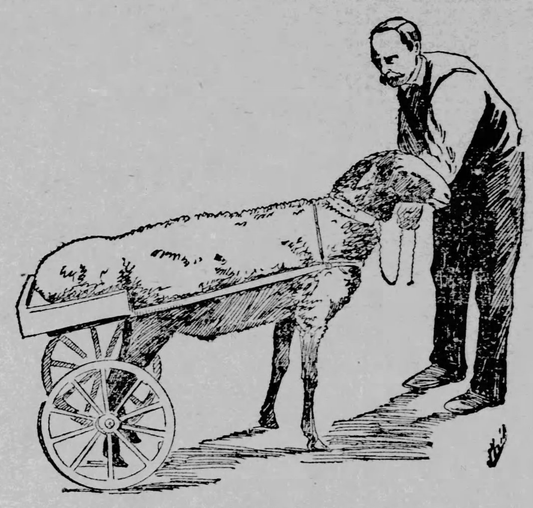
The Enterprising Hagenbeck Agent Had a Two-Wheeled Carriage Made Especially for This Tail.

A sheep with an enormous tail, a tail so big that the animal is unable to get about, is now attracting the attention of zoologists at Hagenbeck's depot for wild and curious animals, says the New York World. The sheep hails from Kirchiz, which forms part of the Asiatic Empire under the sway of the white czar. It is a remarkable fact that the sheep was found in the steppes, in a desolate prairie district where the vegetation is of the poorest. Not unlike the American watermelon that flourishes on the dryest sort of soil, this sheep has accumulated an unheard of amount of fat on pasture absolutely devoid of nutritious elements.

The animal is short, with soft, white wool. Though only three years old, the enormous development of its tail is such that it would have starved if left to care for itself in the plains where Hagenbeck's traveler discovered the phenomenon.

The sheep was lying down when first seen, and when the stranger approached made ineffectual efforts to rise upon its forelegs, but the big tail dragged it down continuously. Noting this interesting animal freak, the agent placed the sheep in his carriage, and on the journey home attached a board below the tail to protect it from injury. In Hamburg a two-wheeled carriage was constructed, and by its aid the sheep now carrics its tail gracefully and advantageously.

The broad-tailed sheep, which is quite common in the fertile parts of Asia, especially India and China, belongs to the same variety of the species as the fat-rumped sheep of Southern Tartary. The latter is distinguished by an accumulation of fat on the rump falling in two great masses behind, and often entirely concealing the tail; in the broad-tailed



THE SHEEP WITH THE 25-POUND TAIL.

sheep the accumulations are on each side of the tail.

The fat is less solid than that of other parts of the animal. It has the taste of butter, and is highly esteemed as a delicacy.

The tail of the animal pictured weighs 25 pounds. The animal without the tail weighs 60 pounds.

FANCY DRESSES.

Louis XVI Gowns and Comic Costumes Most in Favor This Season.

Fancy dress occupies a large amount of space in fashion's chronicles at this season, when all sorts of frivolities are in order, and foreign dress designers seem to devote much time and thought to the business of inventing new ways of carrying out old ideas in costuming, and transforming a fashionable woman into an old-time dame, with modern taste to make the gown becoming. One very desirable point in fancy dress is to have the gown so nearly up to date that it can easily be converted into a fashionable evening dress. The rainbow gown in the first sketch is a good example of this. The underdress is of shot sky blue and white silk, and the overdress is of white accordion-plaited chiffon with seven rows of half-inch satin ribbon in rainbow colors of red, pale green, orange, lemon, moss green, blue and violet around the

bottom, with a quarter of an inch space between the rows. The bodice is veiled in chiffon and trimmed with summer flowers, damask roses, jasmine, and forget-me-nots, trails of which fall on the skirt, and sprays of the same flower catch up the transparent sleeves of chiffon. The whole dress is lightly spangled with crystals to represent rain drops, and a few loose strands fall from the waist, sleeves, and blue and white silk parasol. The spray of flowers in the hair glistens with crystals and brilliants, and the shoes and stockings are sky blue.

Gowns worn in the period of Louis XVI. and comic costumes are the prevailing elements of fancy dress this season, and the former afford no end of variety for ball gowns for this purpose. The latter are usually carried out by representing inanimate objects, such as waste paper baskets and garden vegetables.

Russian costumes, too, are very popular, because they supply so many ways of using the fur trimming now fashionable. hTe very latest idea in Paris for fancy dress is to wear a fanciful headdress with the regulation modern evening dress. The selections are made from the history of costumes and the different national headdresses, and the more elaborate and extraordinary they appear the more acceptable they are. The jeweled caps worn by Catherine de Vendome and Anne d'Alencon are especially pretty on young girls, and the high steeple sort of cap worn by Normandy women years ago is another fancy, but the favorite headdresses are taken from the time of Louis XIV. and later to the reign of Louis XVI., while Queen Elizabeth, Marie Antoinette and Mme. de Maintenon styles are copied literally. Theatrical costumes and old pictures furnish excellent models for fancy dress, and characters in fiction as well, but floral dresses are not the fashion this season.

The second costume shown, with the high hat and row if ribbon bows, pointed crown and feathers, originated about the time of Louis XVI., and the modern copy is carried out in white silk muslin and dark red velvet. The sleeves are made of satin and trimmed with pallettes of every kind and color, and the full bodice is crossed by ribbons of different hues, and the bag worn at the side is filled with candy wafers of every color. A gown in which represents the flower convolvulus has a green silk underskirt decorated around the edge with sprays of the flower. The gored overskirt of white satin is lined with stiff muslin and striped with bands of shaded red velvet. The waist of white satin is trimmed with flowers, and the hat is shaped as nearly like a convolvulus as possible. The bicycle is very prettily represented in a white satin gown with panels back and front for the gear case; vest and waistband are of black satin, with a round piece of red satin in the middle to indicate the light. The edges of the skirt, headdress, collar, and sleeves are made of pale gray velvet, rolled to represent pneumatic tires, and the spokes of the wheel are made of wire covered with black satin. The peasant girl is always a convenient character to copy, for the cost of her costume is never very high, and the Swiss fete dress is very effective with an underskirt of red wool and an overdress of black velveteen. The tight-fitting waist is cut square over a chemisette and sleeves of soft white silk or lawn, and the neck band is of black velvet. The apron is striped red and black, and the black velvet cap has wired lace wings and silver buckles on either side.—New York Sun.

You Can Believe

The testimonials published in behalf of Hood's Sarsaparilla. They are written by honest people, who have actually found in their own experience that Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, creates an appetite, strengthens the system and absolutely and permanently cures all diseases caused by impure or deficient blood.

Hood's Pills for the liver and bowels act promptly, easily and effectively.

This Was a Good One.

"Did I tell you the latest bright thing my little boy got off" asked McBride, as he joined a group of friends at the club.

"Yes, you did," replied all, in concert with discouraging unanimity.

"That's where I've caught you," retorted McBride, "for it only happened last evening, and I haven't seen a soul of you fellows since. Besides, this was really a good one."

"Then you haven't told it to us," replied Kilduff speaking for the crowd. "Go on."

"Yes, tell us quickly," added Skidmore, "and let us have the agony over."

Thus encouraged, McBride began: "You know, boys, little people have sharp ears, and they are not at all backward about telling any little scraps of information they pick up. This peculiarity has led a good many parents to resort to spelling words when their young children are present. Of course that sort of thing is of no avail after the youngsters learn to spell. Well, Mrs. McBride and I are in the spelling stage now, and little Freddy is often very much mystified by our remarks to each other. Last night we had our new minister to dinner, and Freddy watched the good man helping himself very liberally to biscuits. I thought it a good opportunity to put into use the family verbal cipher, feeling perfectly certain that the minister would find it unintelligible. So he called out, 'Mamma!'

"'Mamma, isn't the m-i-n-i-s-t-e-r a p-i-g-?' spelled out Freddy, triumphantly."

The fellows had to admit that this story about McBride's boy was really a good one.—Harper's Drawer.

From the Irish Standpoint.

Timothy O'Hooligan was carrying on a clandestine correspondence with a certain young lady of his acquaintance, and he called at the postoffice to see if there were any letters for him.

"Have ye any letters for me?" he asked.

"What name, sir?" asked the clerk.

"Tim Murphy."

"No, there are no letters for that name."

"And do you think I'd be afther tellin' ye me roit name, ye spalpeen," returned Tim, angrily.—Pick-Me-Up.

Same as Contentment.

"Joslar," said Mrs. Corntossel, "what is diplomacy, any way?"

"W-a-a-l," was the reply, "diplomacy, es fer ez I've able ter make head or tail of it, consists principally in lettin' on that ye never did want whut ye can't have."—Washington Star.

HARTSHORN'S SELF-ACTING SHADE ROLLERS

Beware of Imitations. NOTICE AUTOGRAPH OF Stewart Hartshorn ON LABEL AND AT THE GENUINE HARTSHORN

Ornamenting

It recently occurred to Tiffany & Co., the New York jewelers, to ornament a bicycle elaborately with gold, silver, and precious stones, believing that some wealthy customer would esteem so handsome a mount. They preferred to pay $100 each for

Columbia Bicycles

For their purpose to using any other make of wheel. There must be no question of quality in a bicycle selected for such ornamentation. Therefore they chose Columbias

STANDARD OF THE WORLD
Unequalled, Unapproached.

Beautiful Art Catalogue of Columbia and Hartford Bicycles is free if you call upon any Columbia agent; by mail from us for two 2-cent stamps.

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KICKER MEETS KICKER.

"Kicking Tom" and a Mexican Burro Fight a Duel to the Death.

In the days of the San Gabriel canyon mining boom in the 70's, a large-boned and gigantic Indianian was known to his rough but kindly associates as "Kicking Tom," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. He had won the nickname by reason of the terrific force with which he could launch his great sinewy foot against an opposing object. One day a miner brought into camp a Mexican burro, which soon obtained a wide celebrity as a vicious animal, which, when excited, would attack man or beast with desperate fury. Several mountaineers had been kicked to death by him, and more than one man had nearly lost his life by the savage brute. So exciting had become the record of the jack's achievements that they became the subject of universal conversation and inquiry among the miners. Sitting in their cabins they spun wonderful tales of what he had done and was capable of doing.

"He is the liveliest kicker going," said one.

"You are right, old man. That beast can kick the hair off a man's head without touching the skin," replied one of his companions.

That was touching Tom in a tender place, and, after a moment's reflection, he spoke up with the remark:

"He can't outkick me." The observation was received with amazed silence.

"Lord, Tom! Why, he'd make mincemeat of you in a minute."

"Would he?" replied the athletic Indianian. "Then he can have the chance. I'm ready to kick for $100 and may the best man win."

"Or the best jack," interposed a companion.

"I mean what I say, old man, so don't be too spry with your tongue." And Tom's brow lowered, signifying anger. One friend apologized for the jest and the crowd dispersed.

The next day the rumor went wild through the camp that Tom was willing to kick the burro for a wager. In the dusk of the evening the miners gathered in from their work and discussed the subject in all its bearings. Opinion as to the match was about evenly divided. If anything Tom was the favorite. Under these circumstances a mill for $100 a side was easily arranged between the beast and the man, and it was decided that the conflict was to come off the next Sunday afternoon.

Promptly at the appointed hour every inhabitant of the canyon and the villages that have since grown into Pomona and Pasadena was assembled in a little level spot just outside the limits of the camp. The preliminaries were quickly arranged and the fight began. The beast was quick to take in the situation at a glance, and, laying back his ears he watched his wary opponent with angry eyes. Suddenly Tom leaped forward and launched a terrific kick squarely on the junction of the neck and head.

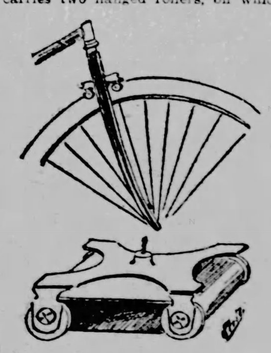
The brute reeled from the force of the blow, but recovering on the instant, he wheeled and launched both heels at his antagonist. The man leaped aside and as quick as lightning responded with another fearful kick on the burro's neck. And so the conflict raged. Sometimes the jack would get in a savage blow on his opponent, but oftener the man had all the best of it, and at last putting forth all of his wonderful strength, he landed a kick with the fury and irresistible force of a pile driver on the jack's neck, which had been his objective point from the beginning. The beast reeled back and, with a convulsive quiver fell over. Tom was terribly bruised, but no bones were broken, and in a few days he was as spry as ever.

A NEW BRAKE.

Cheap and Simple and Will Not Cut or Wear the Tire.

The illustration represents a very simple and inexpensive brake, which by a slight modification may be adapted for use as a foot brake, and which is designed not to cut or wear the material of which the tire is made.

The brake frome is of metal, and carries two flanged rollers, on which



is tightly stretched a rubber band, the brake being attached to a stem which extends up to the steering head. When the brake stem or rod is forced downward in the usual way, the band bears with corresponding pressure on the wheel tire.

The inventor has also provided a construction by which one of the rollers carrying the band is adjustable, and may be moved outwardly, if desired, to increase the tension on the band.

The Praise of Sozodont,

like the famous article itself, is in almost everybody's mouth. The people know that it preserves, as well as beautifies, the teeth. Hence it is the standard Tooth Wash of the Period.

In 1900.

"You advertised for a coachman, sir?" said the applicant.

"I did," replied the merchant. "Do you want the position?"

"Yes, sir."

"Have you had any experience?"

"I have been in the business all my life."

"You are used to handling gasoline, then?"

"Yes, sir."

"And you are posted on electricity?"

"Thoroughly."

"Good. Of course, you are a machinist also?"

"Certainly."

"And I presume you have an engineer's license?"

"Of course."

"Very well. You may go around to the barn and get the motocycle ready. My wife wishes to do a little shopping."—Chicago Post.

Accommodating.

Conductor—Can you squeeze a lady in there?

Gents (in delighted chorus)—Certainly!—Bristol Magpie.

The Sunday School.

The Great Helper.

GOLDEN TEXT.—They glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us.—Luke 7:16.

(Luke 7:2-16. Memory verses: 14-16.)

Read Luke 7:1-50.

2. And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

3. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.

4. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

5. For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

6. Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself; for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:

7. Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word and my servant shall be healed.

8. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

9. When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

10. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

11. And it came to pass the day after that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.

12. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

13. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

14. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

15. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

Illustrative Applications.

A certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him (v. 2). A good servant is a treasure. Whoever has one ought to prize him. A good servant is commonly an indication of a good master or mistress. Good ruling promotes good serving. If there were more good mistresses in the parlor, there would be more good servants in the kitchen. This truth has a bearing on "the servant girl question."

When he heard concerning Jesus, he sent unto him (v. 3). What folly it would have been on his part not to send for Jesus, in view of his need, and of the goodness and power of Jesus as he had heard of them! How strange it is that, when the story of Jesus as a willing and sufficient helper is known to many in sorrow and in need, so few are ready to seek his help! To hear of Jesus is a privilege. To call on Jesus when we have heard of him is a privilege and a duty. To hear of Jesus, and not to call on him, is a folly and a sin.

They came to Jesus, saying, he is worthy that thou shouldest do this for him (v. 4). A man finds, sooner or later, that it pays to have a good reputation. There may be times when it seems as if it made little difference whether others thought well or ill of him; but, again, there comes an hour when he finds that his reputation is all the world to him. He wants a favor from some one whom he does not know. His reputation with those who are known to that one settles the question of his success. It stands out at the last, if it does not at the first, that "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."

Say the word, and my servant shall be healed (v. 7). It is not for us to say how our Lord shall work an answer to our prayers. It is enough that we trust him to do it. He knows what we want done. He knows how to bring it about. What if he has not come into our house? What if we have not seen him face to face? What if our loved one is "sick, and ready to die,"—past all seeming possibility of help? We have heard of Jesus. Our call can reach him. All power is with him. He will but say the word, our prayer is answered, our desire is attained. If we can not trust our Lord thus implicitly, we have not the faith which he expects of us, and which he loves to honor.

I also am a man set under authority, having under myself soldiers. Jesus said, I have not found so great faith, no not in Israel vs. 8, 9). He who would know how to command must know how to obey. A soldier who is not under authority is good for nothing in authority. He who obeys well, and commands well, can trust well. He can trust to the power of those who are over him, and to the fidelity of those who are under him. The Christian soldier must be under authority. He must be willing to obey orders. He must have confidence in Him whom he obeys. If a soldier doubts his commander, he is of little worth as a soldier. He needs to believe that he who is over him knows the plan of his campaign, and is carrying it out wisely, even while he exacts blind obedience of his subordinates. Christian qualities are soldierly qualities. If we would have the commendation of Jesus, we must exercise the faith-filled obedience of the Roman centurion.

They only son of his mother, and she was a widow (vs. 12). How dark the world seemed when the strong arm of the loving husband failed, and the mother was alone with a helpless babe! How could she bear her burden? How could she do her work? How could she train that child, all by herself? But God had kept her up, and supplied her lack; and he who had been a responsible charge became to her a comfort and a help. And now he whom she had loved and had lived for was also taken from her side. Why had God suffered this? Why should she be thus doubly and hopelessly bereaved? God still brings some of his dearest children to such a trial. Let them know that other hearts have bled and ached like theirs, and that the Savior pities and has balm for them.

When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not (v. 13). If the Lord Jesus Christ sees you in your sorrow, he has compassion on you. If you have any question about his seeing you, you may doubt whether he has pity on you—but not otherwise. He is as sure to pity as he is to see. And whomsoever he pities, he wants to help. When he says, "Weep not," he stands ready to stay the falling tear. His words are words of power as well as of comfort. Until you feel that you are out of the sight of Jesus, or that his ability to give relief to the sorrowing is straitened, you may be sure that his pity and his help are at your trustful call.

He said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise (v. 14). That is the unvarying call of Jesus. "Arise." "It is Satan," says St. Chrysostom, "who says, Cast thyself down." Jesus Christ calls on all to come up higher. And the voice of Jesus can reach even the dead. It calls on those who are dead in trespasses and sins, and those who are on the lowest plane of thought and speech and action, to rise up from their degredation, and take a place by his side, in the life and light which his word can give. For Jesus never calls on any one to arise unless he is ready to give him power to arise. Whoever hears that call may heed it—if he will.—H. Clay Trumbull in S. S. Times.

Knew by Experience.

In many of the schools of Chicago sense-training is being introduced for little boys and girls from 6 to 8 years old.

A teacher had been showing her class various colored pencils and red and green apples, and asking the pupils to tell all about them.

"Now, children," she asked, "what are your eyes for?"

"To see with," came the chorus of replies.

"Hands up—what are your ears for? You may tell, Tommy."

"To hear with."

Right. Now, hands up—what are your noses for?"

One little fellow leaned forward with his arm stretched to its very limit.

"What is it, George?"

"To blow," piped George.—Chicago Dispatch.

Between Two Fires.

"I wonder why they say a woman bestows her hand when she marries."

"Well, she isn't supposed to realize until afterward that she has put her foot in it."

Pausing for an instant, she debated with herself whether she would go to the baby, who was drinking oil from the sewing machine can, or to the steak, which was burning.—Detroit Tribune.

FREE NO INVALID LADIES.

A lady who suffered for years with uterine troubles, displacements, leucorrhœa and other irregularities, finally found a safe and simple home treatment that completely cured her without the aid of medical attendance. She will send it free with full instructions how to use it, to any suffering woman sending name and address to MRS. L. HUDNUT South Bend, Ind.

DOWNIN' BANKER MORGAN.

(Trusting that Rudyard Kipling will subscribe liberally.)

"What are those people yellin' for?" said Banker Morgan's aide;
"They're after bonds! They're after bonds!" the Wall street broker said.
"What bonds are those they're hustlin' for?" said Banker Morgan's aide;
"The public loan The World indorsed!" the Wall street broker said.
For the people know a good thing, and they think it only right,
When they're payin' for the government, that they should have a sight;
So they've raked their gold together, an' they're itchin' for a fight—
For they're downin' Banker Morgan in the mornin'!

"The boss is comin' down the street," said Banker Morgan's aide;
"He might as well go home agin," the Wall street broker said.
"He'll buy the lot all in a lump," said Banker Morgan's aide;
"They'll cost him more 'an 4½," the Wall street broker said.
For the people know a good thing, an' they're biddin' lively, too,
From Oskosh, Oklahoma, Callicoon and Kalamazoo;
An' the only difficulty is, the bonds are all too few—
For they're downin' Banker Morgan in the mornin'!

"The syndicate has got the gold," said Banker Morgan's aide;
"The syndicate out in the cold," the Wall street broker said;
"Who's goin' to help old Grover out?" said Banker Morgan's aide;
"The people will, an' don't you doubt?" the Wall street broker said.
They've subscribed the issue over with an avalanche of dust,
An' they'll take old Uncle Sammy's bonds spot cash an' nary trust;
So there mustn't be a well admit it, for the syndicate is lost—
For they're downin' Banker Morgan in the mornin'!

—New York World.

BIG ROUND-UP OF HORSES.

Five Thousand Steeds Gathered in One Great Band.

Five thousand horses in a single bunch, rearing, running, snorting and shying, urged on by two-score picturesque Indian and half-breed riders, sending into the air a cloud of dust that envelops and partially conceals the vast band of cayuses, as the riders, with swish of ropes, with shouts and yells urged on the surging band of half-wild creatures before them, writes a correspondent from the Jocko Indian agency. It is a picture seldom seen now, and only possible in the unrestricted range of the reservation—a picture, if seen, never to be forgotten.

For five days these bronze riders have scoured the northern range of the reservation, driving before them every horse that was found in this long stretch of country. They have ridden across the rolling ground of the lower valley; they have searched the canyons; they have penetrated the dense timbers of the foothills; they have climbed to the open parks on the mountainside. From valley and canyon and hillside they have driven the half-wild horses and have gathered them on the banks of the Pend d'Oreille river for the round-up.

Five thousand tossing heads, 10,000 vicious eyes, 20,000 tramping hoofs! Almost as far as the eye can reach are horses, horses, horses. There are steeds of every color and of every size. Nearly all of them are the mean, treacherous Indian ponies, some of them shapely and handsome, it is true, but in every eye is a flash of wildness that betokens ill for the man who attempts to tame the owner. Here and there in a mass of horses that is being urged forward is a fine, big, fine-looking animal that is evidence of good breeding. But there are not many of these. They are nearly all cayuses

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1896.

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ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

Do not fail to read our offer of splendid battle pictures for renewals or new subscriptions to the Weekly Blade. It will be found in the "Publishers' Column," the first thing on the fifth page.

NOTICE particularly that this offer is ONLY to those who send us $1 for a subscription or renewal, after this date.

The pictures are splendid. They are fine enough to ornament the walls of the most magnificent private residence. They are all reproductions of oil paintings, are large in size, and accurate in historic detail. Read the offer carefully, and avail yourself of it.

EXCELLENT SEEDS FREE.

On the fifth page of this issue we publish an offer of garden seeds to the subscribers of the Weekly Blade, of which we believe thousands will be glad to avail themselves. Read it carefully, for you get the best quality of seeds actually free of cost.

REMEMBER—This offer is open only to those who remit $1 for subscription or renewal, after this date.

We publish the offer early, because a great many subscribers renew during February, and will probably be glad to avail themselves of this. The seeds will not spoil by having them on hand until planting time.

The seeds have been grown in Minnesota, and hence the plants will be hardy and strong in any climate. No reader of The Blade in the United States lives in so cold a region that these seeds will not give full satisfaction. Per contra, those living further south, and hence in a warmer climate, will find these seeds most excellent. They will produce more vigorous plants than seeds grown in warmer latitudes. Read the offer carefully. You never had a better opportunity to get first-class seeds. It pays to get the best seeds of the best varieties, for the yield is larger and the product better.

RAISING LAKE LEVELS.

The River and Harbor committee has agreed, without a dissenting voice, to report favorably on Representative Griswold's resolution which calls on the secretary of War for information as to the feasibility of raising the levels of the Great Lakes by dams or locks, and the cost of such improvement.

The House should not hesitate to adopt the resolution at once. The engineers of the War department, it is already known, are fully convinced of the feasibility of the project, and that the cost will be far less than the heavy expenditures now needed for harbor improvements, clearing of channels, etc.

The steady increase in size and draught of lake vessels was followed by a demand for the clearing and deepening of the channels connecting the lakes. This has been done, and the outflow has been more than the intake, with the result that the lake levels have been lowered, the harbors shoaled, and the connecting channels again as dangerous as they were at first.

The evil thus done must be remedied by dams; and if the proper depth for the mighty modern freighters can not be obtained in any other way, locks must be built, turning the connecting rivers into slackwater canals. This will necessarily be cheaper in the long run than the present plan. Raising the lake levels means the deepening of every harbor without dredging; and the saving in this last item alone will be enough to build the necessary works to raise the lake levels.

MCKINLEY IN ILLINOIS.

If the conference of Illinois Republicans at Springfield last week proved anything it was that ex-Governor McKinley, of Ohio, is the choice of Illinois Republicans for President, and that he will receive the support of all, or nearly all the delegates to the St. Louis convention.

It was McKinley's name which when spoken called forth greater enthusiasm than was received by the names of all the other candidates. And it must be remembered that this conference was attended by the party leaders of the state, men whose influence will be felt when the time comes to select convention delegates. Ohio Republicans are delighted with the feeling which Illinois has expressed for McKinley. It is only another proof of the fact that the people want the Ohio man for President. This feeling is general among the people, and the leaders are catching the spirit.

When Illinois is called in the St. Louis convention it is believed her solid vote will be given to the Ohio man, and it will be if the delegates express the will of the people.

It may be there will be no national encampment of the Grand Army this year. The Western Passenger Association refused to grant the desired time extension on reduced rate tickets to St. Paul, thte place selected by the Louisville encampment last September, and it was then determined to select some other city. Being informed that none of the roads, East or West, would allow the privilege asked for, Commander Walker declared that in that event, there would be no national encampment held. This is an unfortunate muddle, but it is to be hoped some way out of it will be found.

The Senate resolution does not recommend the recognition of the Cuban insurgents as belligerents by the United States, but intimates that such recognition ought to be accorded to them by Spain, and calls upon the President, in the event of his concurrence in this opinion, to employ the good offices of the government to effect that result. As Ben Putterworth once said, it is irritating, but not satisfactory.

If Wendell Phillips were alive he would move out of Boston now that the leading hotels of that city have refused to entertain a colored bishop.

The sound money Democrats in the Kentucky legislature paid Henry Watterson a deserved compliment by voting for him for senator.

AN INEBRIATE LAW.

The state of Minnesota has an inebriate law, whereby confirmed drunkards are, at the public expense, put through a course of the Keeley treatment. There was much opposition to the law, and resort was had to the courts, which, recently, however, declared it to be constitutional. Therefore, we are to have in Minnesota a trial of the experiment of state aid in the cure of drunkenness.

The authorities of each county are empowered to send inebriates to Minneapolis, to the Keeley institute, where they will each be given four weeks' treatment. Each county pays the expenses of the persons sent. There is much objection to the cost of this, but the Minneapolis press argues that it will be cheaper in the long run to do this than to support them after awhile continuously in an insane asylum or in a county poorhouse, as one or the other will be the final destination of the majority of the state's confirmed drunkards, if liquor does not kill them off before they reach that point.

Only persons who honestly desire the treatment will be sent to the Minneaplis cure. They can only be sent there upon an order from the probate judge of the county; and it is made his business to know that the applicant is in earnest in his desire to be cured of the drink habit. There is no possibility of fraud, and the actual cost to the county is reduced to the minimum by the care that is exercised in admitting applicants. All of them bind themselves to return the cost of the treatment to the county as soon as possible, and in a very large percentage of the cases cured, it is said, the county has already been reimbursed for its outlay. But if there were never a dollar returned, the community would be amply repaid by the restoration of the patients, sober and in their right minds, to their families and to society.

Yet, after all, this law begins at the wrong end. Why allow men the unrestricted opportunity of becoming the slaves of the drink habit, and then provide a means of curing those who wish to escape from their thraldom? Why not begin at the other end, and take away the opportunity to be enslaved? Why let a man make a wreck of his life, and then try to restore him to usefulness? Is it not better to so educate the children that they will realize the fearful risk to which they subject themselves by beginning to drink, and thus prevent their becoming drunkards at all? It seems to us that this is the logical plan. Thorough education of the rising generation on this topic will prevent the vast majority from ever becoming patrons of the saloon. The old generation will die off, and the saloons will largely cease to exist because of lack of patronage. Thus may we truly

Pulverize the Rum Power.

FREE SILVER IN THE SENATE.

The United States Senate has shown its utter disregard of sound finance by passing a free coinage substitute for the bond bill passed by the House last December. The vote was 42 yeas to 35 nays. The 42 votes were thus divided: Democrats 22, Republicans 14, Populists 6. The negative votes were: Republicans 21, Democrats 13.

Of course, every one knows the free coinage substitute can not pass. The House will kill it. Even if it passed both houses of Congress, it would be vetoed by the President, and could not muster the two-thirds majority necessary to pass it over that veto. The free silver men in the Senate have been simply wasting the time of Congress and of the country, unsettling finance, and injuring the people by their silly adherence to their pet project.

The Republican party of the nation is not responsible for this foolishness. The Senate is not Republican. It is free silver. Teller, Wolcott, and the other Senators from the silver states claim to be Republicans, but are not; and the sooner they array themselves with the Democrats and the Populists the better it will be for the Republican party.

This free silver clique say the bond bill shall not pass; and as they have control of the Senate, it assuredly will not. But it ought to pass, for these reasons: It would enable the Secretary of the Treasury to borrow money on better terms than he can under the law of 1875. The defeat of the bill can not prevent issues of bonds under the old law. Hence there is nothing to gain by defeating the bill, but on the contrary it would save money to the government. If these men were looking to the interests of the country, instead of demagogically catering to the mistaken ideas of misled constituencies, they would take hold of the financial problem in earnest, and solve it in a business-like way.

A NEEDED PENSION BILL.

The Poole bill, for the relief of widows of ex-soldiers, has received the unanimous indorsement of the House committee on Invalid Pensions, and will undoubtedly become a law. There has hitherto been a lack of uniformity in decisions by the pension bureau upon the question of what evidence shall be required to prove the fact of death of a soldier, in order that his widow or minor children may obtain the benefit of the pension laws. The Poole bill aims to correct this variation in rulings, by substituting a legal provision. It provides as follows:

In considering claims filed under this act, the death of an enlisted man or officer shall be considered as sufficiently proved if satisfactory evidence is produced establishing the fact of the continued absence of such enlisted man or officer from his home and family for a period of at least seven years, during which period no intelligence of his existence shall have been received.

This makes a much-needed provision for a very worthy class of pensioners. It merely applies the common-law presumption of death after seven years' absence, and will relieve Congress of a large number of private pension bills introduced for the benefit of worthy claimants, whose applications could not be granted by the pension bureau because of the lack of proof of death.

One thing is certain—the national conventions this year can gain nothing by attempting to straddle the financial issue. The wisest way is to adopt an honest monetary plank, which can not be interpreted one way in Colorado and another way in New York.

The late Ambassador Runyon was an accomplished scholar, jurist and diplomat. When he made his first appearance at a court function in Berlin, it was in the full uniform of a major general of New Jersey volunteers. But he had a perfect right to wear it.

Where are the "markets of the world" which the Democratic tariff was to conquer for our exports? During the year our exports increased only $463,723, while our imports were greater by $125,000,000 than those of 1894.

It may be well to remind the gentlemen who are selecting delegates at large to the St. Louis convention that Ohio Republicans will hold a state convention soon and a part of its work will be to select these delegates.

The spring is coming. Florida strawberries are coming to northern markets, but the prices beat the band.

When will the United States Senate quit playing to the gallery?

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD QUESTION.

The obligations of the Pacific railroads to the government of the United States was originally $60,000,000, but is now about double that sum. This is because the government has paid the interest from the beginning upon the bonds which it issued for the benefit of these roads. It has received as an offset the carriage of the mails, troops and munitions of war which it has shipped over these roads; but after deducting the allowance for this service, they stand to-day in the attitude of owing the government practically double the sum which they owed when the bonds were issued in their behalf to aid in the construction of their lines.

These bonds are now falling due. Last November the government paid $640,500 of them, $1,440,000 were due in January and $4,320,000 will be due this month; $6,000,000 more fall due in January next year, and the remainder comes along at narrow intervals. These figures as to the maturity of bonds relate alone to the Union Pacific, and there must be added to them nearly $3,000,000 of Central Pacific bonds which fall due in 1895, and a like sum which fall due in 1896, after which time they will come along at a very rapid rate.

The matter of dealing with these roads can no longer be deferred. The present Congress must settle it. The railroads declare they are not able to pay the principal and interest of this enormous debt and the members of Congress generally concede it to be a fact. So the question now under consideration is what shall be done. Three propositions are before Congress, in various forms, for its consideration. The first is an extension of the time in which the companies may pay their indebtedness. They want the debt funded in 3 per cent bonds, to run 100 years, with an arrangement by which they may pay semi-annually a fixed sum, part of which shall pay interest, and the remainder go into a sinking fund to wipe out the indebtedness at the end of a century.

Another proposition is that the government shall foreclose its mortgage and thus become the owner of the roads, though in doing so, of course, it would have to take them subject to the first mortgage bonds, which are largely held by foreign investors.

The third proposition is that the roads shall be sold to the highest bidder simultaneously, so that one company may buy the entire line from Omaha to San Francisco, and pay the indebtedness or such proportion of indebtedness as their bid might cover.

The first proposition is the one which the railway companies want, and to it they are bending every energy. It has the bitter opposition, however, of the people of the West, especially of the Pacific coast.

The second—that the government shall foreclose, take possession, and run the roads, assuming the first mortgage bonds, will not be adopted by Congress, and needs no further discussion.

The third—the sale of the roads—is the one demanded by the people of the Pacific coast, with extraordinary unanimity and energy. The only objection to it is that the roads would probably not bring a sum equal to the principal of the bonds, thus compelling the government to lose the interest it has paid.

Probably the safest plan would be to foreclose and sell, subject to the acceptance of the bid by Congress. If the highest bid would involve too great loss, then it might be well to consider the first proposition, of selling the road and giving 50 or 100 years to pay the price in equal annual installments.

HORSES AND BICYCLES.

The Orange Judd Farmer places the value of farm animals in the United States at $1,864,420,000, or $62,139,000 less than in 1894. The heavy decline has been principally in horses and mules. This is because of the introduction of bicycles, and the enormous extension of the electric propulsion of street cars, thus disusing horses to such an extent that their price has fallen to the lowest point ever known. Both the electric street railway and the bicycle have come to stay, and there is no prospect of an increase in the price of horses, unless the supply shall be reduced by the failure of the farmers to raise them.

The bicycle is no longer a fad. It is a permanent addition to the means of human locomotion. Hundreds of thousands of wheels are in almost daily use, and the value of the annual product runs up into the millions. The rapidity with which the silent steed has come into favor is hardly equalled by any invention in the service of commercial interests.

Yet its use thus far is but the beginning. It has still and enormous extension of use before it. The chief obstacle to its still wider spread is the cost. A heavy scaling down has already been effected, the price of a first-class wheel having been reduced from $150 to $100. But even the latter figure is too high and places the bicycle beyond the reach of many who would otherwise become riders.

At present the cost of distribution is excessive. It is probably more than half the retail price. If this could be done away with the sales would be enormously increased and employment provided for an additional army of mechanics. The indications are that the present price will not stand, and that bicycles will, after awhile, by reason of their cheapness, become as indispensable as pocketknives.

The deadlock in the Kentucky legislature will probably result in a failure to elect an United States senator this winter to succeed Blackburn. As the latter's seat does not become vacant until March 4 of next year, Kentucky will not have a vacant seat. Probably by the time the legislature reconvenes, common sense may overtake some of the recalcitrants, and a successor to Blackburn be selected.

Suppose that Potter Palmer were appointed to the vacant German ambassadorship, would he be received in court circles in Berlin? The question revives the story of Princess Eulalia's horror, when entertained by Mrs. Potter Palmer, on finding that she was the guest of a tavern-keeper's wife.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat giggles with ghoul-like glee when it reminds the Democratic party that "it can not nominate a Northern man for President this year without taking him from a Republican state."

The Ohio Republican state committee will be called together February 8. The demand for an early convention is so overwhelming that it is believed it will not be held later than the first of April.

A Morton missionary is beating up the Iowa prairies for delegates, while an Allison ditto is laboring in New York for the Iowa man. The war is on in earnest.

The stories concerning the Presidential preferences of the delegates from this or that or the other state remind one of the war news from Cuba.

Evidently Mr. Tillman does not propose to allow the disease known as senatorial courtesy to get hold of him.

The Indiana Republicans stand by Harrison and Mrs. Dimmick.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

General trade is yet halting, though the actual conditions grow more favorable. There is a steady return of confidence. The success of the bond sale is assured. The war talk has quieted down, and there is but little to interfere with a steady and sure revival of commerce and business, except on the financial side. The free silver talk in the Senate is retarding a return to confidence in monetary affairs, even though the passage of a free silver law is known to be absolutely impossible.

Henry Clews, in his Saturday circular, gives the following excellent forecast of the financial outlook:

The general conditions affecting financial affairs are working into a more settled and normal state. The widespread process of liquidation that has been in operation for many months, indeed for nearly three years past, seems to have culminated. Foreigners have ceased to return our securities; the scare and distrust of English investors has not only abated, but is succeeded by occasional spurts of demand for our stocks and bonds. Continental bankers are understood to have shown a gratifying confidence in American credit by important bids for the new issue of government bonds, thereby intimating that they take our currency derangements less seriously than do the Anglo-Saxons.

Our trade balance is getting into a more wholesome shape. The excessive imports that followed the reduction of import duties are now rapidly abating. Our exports, held back for four months following the harvest, are now going out in much larger volume, and that in the face of advancing prices for farm products. The extraordinary changes in European politics and the dangers thereby suggested are making foreign investors more willing to consider the merits of American securities, owing to their exemption from the contingencies now affecting the old world issues. The foreign exchanges are turning quite decidedly in our favor. Gold is coming from London; and although the arrivals are rather due to subscriptions to the new loan than to ordinary commercial remittances, yet the bonds going out will help to ease our balance with Europe and may possibly reach the result of making the importation of gold a paying operation. The items of foreign balances resting here is in an unusually conservative position. That balance has perhaps never been so low as it is to-day. Indeed, the process of liquidation has been so complete and radical that it is doubtful whether, outside of our securities permanently held by foreigners, this country has for twenty years been so completely out of debt to other nations as it is to-day.

The New York bank statement of Saturday shows that the preparations of the banks to take the new bonds are completed, as there was a very slight contraction in loans. Money was not offered freely in the market, call loans closing at 5 per cent. Time money, during the week, was not offered freely, but the demand was good, especially for the shorter periods. Such lenders as are in the market prefer, on the contrary, the longer maturities, and this difference of opinion is an additional reason for a restricted business. Rates 5 1-2 per cent. for sixty to ninety days, 6 per cent. for four to six months.

The exports of gold for the week were $513,504, all to Buenos Ayres—none to Europe. Imports of gold, $1,914,761, of which $1,190,000 was from London and the remainder from South American points.

The stock market displayed remarkable and generally unexpected strength all the week. London did not buy heavily at the settlement, but the easier money situation, the decline in foreign exchange, the advance in wheat, the favorable railway statements, and the agreement on coal percentages, all served to encourage a recovery. A good and well-distributed business was transacted in railway bonds, and some noticeable advances were made.

DESPERATE DEMOCRATS.

The Democratic senators are preparing a desperate game to prevent the Republicans from getting control of the Senate during the present Congress. They propose to filibuster against the seating of Dupont, of Delaware. The Republicans are too near a working majority. Since the two new Republican senators from Utah have been seated, the Republicans have 44 members out of a total of 89. Should the vacant seat from Delaware be filled by a Republican, that party would have 45 of the 90 senators, as straight Republicans, while Senator Jones, of Nevada, can be relied upon to co-operate with the Republican party in most matters aside from free silver.

The condition is, therefore, getting uncomfortably close for the Democrats, and they are determined to prevent the seating of Dupont. The Senate committee on elections will report this case very soon—perhaps this week—and an effort will be made to get action on it. This the Democratic leaders will resist, and they do not intend to permit him to be seated, at least during this session of Congress. The next legislature of Delaware will be elected at the coming November election, and will begin its sessions on January 1 of next year. They deem it not impossible, therefore, and perhaps not not improbable, that they might be able to hold this position open until the new legislature should be elected, and perhaps be able to elect a Democrat to fill the place thus kept vacant by their course in the Senate of the United States.

This shows the injustice and desperation of the Democrats. Dupont is justly entitled to the seat; the Democratic action in the Delaware legislature is utterly untenable, morally and legally. But the Democratic senators will deny him his rights, in order to prevent Republican control of the Senate. Fortunately, it is impossible for them to prevent this after March 4, 1897. Then the Senate will have a Republican majority, despite Democratic scoundrelism.

THE POTATO PATCH PLAN.

Mayor Pingree's potato patch plan is working successfully in several cities. New York has tried it and finds it all right. In that city thirty-eight acres were seeded and the workers were allowed eight cents an hour for the time and a half interest in the product. Of course, the labor secured was of the most indifferent kind, so much so that it is estimated it required three days to do what would ordinarily be accomplished in one day. The result shows an expense of $966.75, while the amount received from the sale of the crop was $1,067.65.

The committee is confident that with its experience it can, this year, produce better results at less cost. It is satisfied the Pingree plan is all right, and will push it to a greater extent than last year. Meanwhile other cities are preparing to fall into line.

We wish to call the attention of our free trade brethren to their confident predictions four years ago that with free wool we would be able to compete with Great Britain on home territory. All reports from England are to the effect that the experts to the United States of woolens and worsteds are larger than ever before, those of Bradford alone exceeding for 1895 by £5,000,000 the value of the goods sent out during the previous year.

February is here. Last year it brought us a tremendous cold wave, the severest of the winter, and altogether was the most inclement of the three winter months. Such occurrences are rare, and there is every reason for believing that 1896 will not repeat the record of February, 1895.

In case the ticket should be Morton and Forster an exchange suggests that the campaign slogan should be "Gout and Ginger."

General Weyler proposes to turn Cuba into another Armenia. It will get no further than the proposal, however.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

Congress seems to have been throwing around its advice in a very promiscuous and unprecedented manner. According to a Washington report a cabinet officer has expressed himself as follows: "We have notified Great Britain what she must do with the Venezuela boundary dispute; we have instructed the powers of Europe concerning the policy that they ought to pursue in Turkey, and now we ask Spain to recognize the belligerency of a lot of our American citizens who are robbing towns and burning plantations down in Cuba. We have not yet given any advice to Russia and Japan concerning the Corean complications, nor to Italy about her Abyssinian difficulties, but I suppose these matters will be attended to in due time."

As if the Davis Monroe doctrine resolution did not afford the learned senators sufficient opportunity to indulge in spread-eagle oratory and distribute their speeches among admiring constituents at government expense, the senate foreign affairs committee has interjected another series of resolutions which will cause considerable debate even after the financial and tariff bills and Mr. Davis's resolutions are disposed of. Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, formerly chairman of the committee, on Wednesday reported some resolutions on the Cuban situation.

These resolutions recited that a state of war existed in Cuba and it was not carried on under the recognized rules governing warfare among civilized nations and the President was requested to use his good offices with Spain to have that government accord the insurgents belligerent right.

The action contemplated by the committee is wholly without precedent. Never before has a nation been requested to accord belligerent rights to rebels against its government, and never have such rights been accorded. Because the United States treated captive confederates as prisoners of war, made exchanges and recognized flags of truce, the nations of Europe claimed that the federal government had recognized the belligerency of the Confederacy and by the issue of neutrality proclamations the powers practically recognized the belligerency of the South. Secretary Seward protested, and in the course of the correspondence he made a nice distinction, showing that the United States had been induced to treat the Confederates in this fashion solely from impulses of humanity, and not from any consideration of international law. His protests were unavailing to affect the action of European nations, but he did place the United States on record in a fashion that will make it extremely difficult for the administration to reconcile Mr. Seward's utterances with a compliance with the request of Congress, presuming that the senate committee resolution should be adopted.

A recognition of belligerency amounts to nothing unless manifested in a proclamation of neutrality, so that the senate committee's proposition is really equivalent to a request upon Spain to permit the United States to issue a proclamation declaring this country neutral as respects the present conflict in Cuba.

An extensive Cuban filibustering expedition has come to grief. Several men have been drowned and a steamer and her load of munitions of war have been lost. The branch of the Cuban party which makes its headquarters at New York, not long ago purchased a sea-going steamer, loaded her with 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition, several thousand rifles, a cannon or two, and a choice assortment of high explosives. A hundred or more men, under the leadership of Gen. Garcia, a prominent figure in one of the many revolutions in Cuba, were placed aboard and the steamer put out of the harbor, bound for Cuba. She met a severe storm. The crew and passengers took to the boats, and all but some half dozen were picked up by passing vessels. The steamer had sprung a leak and the water gained so rapidly that the fires were extinguished.

The Cubans assert that there must have been a traitor on board or else the expert who examined the vessel and pronounced her seaworthy did not properly perform his duty. The general opinion seems to be that there was a Spanish agent aboard, who deliberately scuttled the ship.

Europe fears the United States may conclude to interfere in affairs in the Old World, and it has been suggested that some sort of a Monroe doctrine is needed to protect the effete monarchies from the aggressions of America. Germany has a claim upon Venezuela for a debt due to some subjects of the German emperor, and it is hinted that she proposes to follow the example set by England in the case of Nicaragua, and send a fleet to enforce payment. The United States has been notified that the Monroe doctrine applies only in the case of boundary disputes or territorial aggressions and does not enter into the case when force is used in an effort to collect a bad debt.

Advices from South Africa show that the only American now under arrest is John Hayes Hammond, and from the report of the British consular agent, who has been charged with the duty of looking after the interests of the Americans arrested by the Boers, it would seem as if he was in no serious danger. Secretary Olney is reported to have said that he thought Hammond would soon be released, or, if punished, the penalty would not be a severe one.

Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, made a speech in the Senate on January 29, in favor of free silver and for two hours he poured out a torrent of brutal invective against the President, Secretary Carlisle, both houses of Congress and the millionaires of the country. But Tillman was not only brutal but he crowded the floor of the Senate and the galleries and held his audience by that attraction which brutality has upon men. He called the President a robber, traitor and tyrant, called Secretary Carlisle "Judas"; charged bribery against both houses of Congress and called the bankers and rich men thieves; charged the President with trading patronage for votes and asserted that the gold ring of Wall street had dictated the nominees and platforms of both the Democratic and Republican parties.

While he spoke with the impressiveness of an exhorter at a camp meeting at times, and again with the bitter invective and clownish mannerisms of a gutter politician, he had the most distinguished and attentive audience that was ever accorded such a speaker. But when he had finished and the spell was broken there was left only the sensation of disgust with his hearers.

The big steamer St. Paul is unlucky. There was great difficulty in launching her, and when she was finally floated, she made a few trips to Southampton, and then blew up a big steam pipe, partboiling several of the engine crew so that they died. About two weeks ago she came steaming across the ocean and struck the Jersey shore full tilt, several miles south of Sandy Hook. She is there now. The big steamer had lost her bearings in a fog, and when she stopped she was 300 feet from shore.

McKinley has captured twelve of the sixteen Republican delegates to be sent from Louisiana to the national convention, and Reed the other four. The state convention has indorsed the fusion ticket, and will make a strong effort to defeat the Democratic ticket.

Lord Salisbury has explained why England has not compelled the Turk to let up on his pleasant pastime of killing Armenians. She can't. The premier in a long speech announced that the only satisfactory method of keeping the "sick man" in order was to occupy that country, and that was a contract that England does not care to shoulder. It was all very well to slaughter natives in the wilds of Africa, but it was an altogether different thing to keep the warlike, fanatical hordes of Asia Minor in order. It would require a greater army than England has at her disposal, and would also weaken her very materially should some of the powers who cordially hate her suddenly determine to make war. Lord Salisbury thinks the sultan, if left to himself, will institute reforms and restore order, but he fails to take into account the high death rate among the Armenians in the interior.

A report has been rendered by the European consular commission which was detailed to investigate the Sassoun massacre of 1894. This massacre was really the initial step in the alleged movement to exterminate the Armenians. Report had it that some 10,000 Armenians had been killed, but this commission reports that it found actual proof of the death of but 265 victims scattered through some 265 villages. Granting that the commission was unable to obtain proof of more than 25 per cent of the correct number of victims, it would seem that in this instance there has been more talk than slaughter.

On Friday, by a strict party vote, the House committee on foreign affairs decided to report a resolution censuring Ambassador Bayard for his speeches as improper. The resolution also states that it is improper for United States representatives abroad to condemn any political party or policy in America, on the ground that such actions tend to destroy that influence and impair the confidence they should always command at home and abroad.

The Democratic members opposed any resolution censuring the ambassador or any general expression upon the speeches of representatives in foreign lands. The stand taken by the Democrats led to the drafting of a much more severe resolution than would have been the case had their opposition been less pronounced. It is not unlikely that the resolution will pass without amendment or else made more caustic.

The Dingley bond bill was, on Friday, killed by the passage of a free silver substitute by the Senate. This bill will fail in the House, and even if it passed that body, the President would veto it. In fact, even the friends of the measure, have no hope of its ever becoming a law.

The question of jurisdiction has been settled and it now seems probable that a single set of receivers will control the affairs of the Northern Pacific road. There are now six receivers—there were eight, until Circuit Judge Gilbert discharged two appointed by Judge Knowles at Helena. Messrs. Oakes, Payne and Rouse, the receivers appointed by Judge Jenkins, of Milwaukee, have resigned, and their resignations accepted in two of the circuits. In the West they were removed for contempt of court, and Receiver Burleigh appointed with jurisdiction from the Montana border to the Pacific. At New York, where there are great property interests, the court has, as yet, refused to accept the resignations of the old triumvirate of receivers. Receivers Bigelow and McHenry, appointed by Judge Jenkins to succeed the old receivers, are operating the line from St. Paul to the Montana border.

This complicated case was referred to Supreme Justices Field, Harlan, Brewer and Brown, through whose circuits the road runs, and they decided that at the time of the appointment of receivers the operating offices of the road—it had then leased the Wisconsin Central—were in Milwaukee, and that Jenkins then had jurisdiction. The justices then directed that Judge Jenkins's court should be considered that court of primary jurisdiction and that other circuit courts should be considered ancillary to his, although one of the justices thought the St. Paul court should be the court of primary jurisdiction, since the operating offices are now in St. Paul and but very little of the property is in Wisconsin. This ruling finally settles the complication and will lead to a uniform receivership, avoiding the threatened breaking up the system through the clash of receivers.

UNDER THE DOME.

An important officer of the House is a young man who may be seen when the House is in session, constantly in front of the speaker's desk. He appears to be on very familiar terms with the speaker, and is seen to frequently make suggestions to him. He is what is known as the "clerk-at-the-speaker's-table," and he is a sort of assistant speaker. He makes a business of learning the members' names and residences, and when the speaker says: "The gentleman from ——," he whispers the name of the state. He also follows the proceedings very closely, so when the speaker's attention has been diverted he is able to post him. When a point of order is raised he looks up precedent, etc., for the speaker. Mr. Reed is very quiek himself, and does not need much coaching, but the temporary presiding officer and the chairmen of the committee of the whole depend upon him. He is Asher C. Hinds, a bright young Maine newspaper man, who got his experience in the Fifty-first Congress, and has a natural aptitude for the work.

The average Representative at the Capitol is like the Dutchman's flea—when you put your finger on him he is not there. He disappears in the most mysterious fashion, and the man who has to find him is nearly driven to distraction, especially when he is an outsider and cannot get the in on the floor. Even the members have hard work finding each other at times. Those who are wise get the assistance of the colored boys who preside over the cloak rooms. They soon learn where each member hangs his hat and coat, and they can tell at a glance whether a member is around the building or not. A Senator is even harder to get at than a Representative, and he has a means of escape that the House member does not have. The dignity of the Senators will not allow them to travel with the vulgar mob, so a private hallway and elevator is provided for them, and while a constituent is waiting at one of the public doors his Senator may have slipped out at the private exit and got away.

Senator Mitchell has introduced a bill in the Senate, which has already been favorably reported from the committee on public lands, of immense importance to the people in the Western states. Its object is to provide for the repayment of certain fees, purchase money and commissions paid on void entries to public lands. Heretofore it has been impossible for an entryman to recover money paid in this way. The bill provides that in all cases where homestead, timber culture or desert entries have been canceled for conflict, or where from any other cause the entry has been erroneously allowed and not confirmed, the secretary of the interior shall cause to be repaid to the person who made such entry the fees, commissions, amount of purchase money and excesses paid upon the same. In cases where parties as pre-emptors or homestead claimants have paid double minimum price for land, that is, $2.50 per acre, which has afterwards been found not to be within the limits of any portion of a railroad grant or which is within the limits of any railroad grant which has been forfeited for any cause, the excess of $1.25 per acre shall be refunded, but only to the original entryman or his heirs.

The following story was told to a group of House members recently:

Richard W. Knott, one of the sound money leaders in Kentucky, editor of the Louisville Post, and the man who is credited with the defeat of Hardin for governor, met Senator Joe Blackburn a short time ago at the Pendennis club, in Louisville. While they are bitter antagonists on the financial question, he and Blackburn personally are warm friends, and often indulge in liberty of speech which might not otherwise be tolerated among Kentuckians.

Blackburn was making an eloquent defense of his silver views to a number of club members. Knott listened to him patiently until he came to a pause, and quietly observed:

"Say, Joe, your ignorance on the financial question is so dense that it must be native. At your time of life no man could possibly have acquired it."

This story is told of a recent reception at Senator Sherman's:

Charming lady, introducing herself to the Senator from Ohio.

Senator—Why, of course. Do you know it's exceedingly difficult for me to remember names, strange as it may seem.

Charming Lady (having his recently published memoirs in mind)—Not strange at all, Senator, for you seem to remember so many other things that these little social matters don't count, anyway.

(Confusion of the Senator, and smiles all around).

Presidential candidate guessers, having balanced the chances of Reed, Allison, McKinley, Harrison, Davis and others of lesser light, and still being undecided as to which one will tip the chief magisterial combination scales for a Republican nomination, which it is generally conceded means an election, have now turned their prophetic vision in another direction and the general at present commanding the army is the first man that strikes their eye. It is said that Gen. Nelson A. Miles was once before mentioned as a Presidential possibility, just after his masterly handling of the great strike at Chicago. It is hinted that there is a secret organization, numerous in every section of the country, which looks upon Gen. Miles as a man who is no less a statesman than he has proved himself to be a general, and they are working hard in his behalf. This, however, is idle gossip. While no one doubts that Gen. Miles could successfully fill any position within the gift of the people, there is considerable more doubt as to his position on public matters than there is about even the most noncommittal of the prominent candidates now mentioned. In fact, it is not known whether he is a Democrat or a Republican, and as, according to his own confession, he has never voted in his life, it would be a difficult job to discover just "where he is at." It seems to be generally understood that he is a Democrat, but there is no certainty on this point.

It is a curious fact that ever since the close of the war the Democrats have selected their presidential candidates from New York. Seymour, in 1868; Greeley, 1872; Tilden, 1876; Hancock, 1880, and Cleveland, 1884, 1888 and 1892. General Hancock, although born in Pennsylvania, was stationed at Governor's Island when nominated. Whether their candidate in 1896 will come from the Empire state or not is a question. The Westerners, however, think it is their turn now, and if the South should decide to lend them a helping hand they can get it, as they have the necessary votes in the convention.

If the Venezuelan imbroglio accomplishes nothing else it at least promises to advance the Nicaragua canal project more rapidly than could otherwise be expected.

Money talks, therefore it is safe to presume the new Senator from Mississippi is something of an orator.

A Cripple Creek crash is the next thing on the programme. It can not be long deferred.

Congress to adjourn in June? Why raise rosoate hopes, only to have them dio of non-fulfillment?

Congressional resolutions will not feed nor clothe the starving Armenians.

THE FEMININE OBSERVER.

Skirts for spring will be narrower.

How foriorn mackintoshes look on clear days!

It isn't spring yet, though organdies are being sold.

Portieres of real chains are novel but not decorative.

Serim makes dainty and inexpensive bureau covers.

A souvenir corner is the original idea of a popular girl.

A proud stride and a frayed skirt do not go well together.

The narrow foot is regarded as the true type of pedal elegance.

Old-fashioned sandals have appeared at the smartest assemblies.

A strawberry luncheon is an expensive entertainment at this season.

A cluster of three orchids costs as much as many a man earns in a week.

Don't give a woman a box of chocolates until you are sure she likes them.

Rosy cheeks are charming, but don't use a mustard plaster to make them so.

Orris powder in sachets gives the exact perfume of violets to one's belongings.

A black serge gown lined with rose pink taffeta is worn by a Walnut street belle.

Wall paper in white with single clusters of poppies scattered here and there is new.

Actresses are just ordinary mortals after all, despite the popular belief to the contrary.

The society girl of to-day makes a study of music and frequently plays like a professional.

The china crumb tray in the form of a dustpan is a pretty addition to your table fittings.

Muslins and crumpets just as we had them in dear old England can be bought at up-to-date groceries.

The young couple anxious to set up housekeeping had better begin now. There never were such bargains in furniture.

The woman with the lovely silk petticoat always finds it necessary to raise her outside skirt on even the dryest pavement.

A triple chinchilla cape with white satin choux and twists at the base of the high collar, was seen at the theatre recently.

A black and white luncheon was the novelty of the week, but it was not sufficiently pleasing to warrant copying save by the morbid.

BITS OF SCIENCE.

Genuine photographs of imaged impressed on the retina seem to have been taken by Mr. W. Ingles Rogers. In the presence of three trustworthy witnesses he looked steadily at a postage stamp in strong light one minute, then at a photograph plate in nonactinic light twenty minutes. Development gave a picture in outline or "psychogram," as it is to be called.

A contrivance for quickly stopping machinery—as in case some person is being drawn between cogs or rollers—has been devised by a French electrician. On touching one of a series of push buttons placed at convenient points the power is shut off and a powerful brake applied to the wheels. A 20-horse power engine, working at ninety revolutions, was stopped in two thirds of a second.

A process has been patented in Germany for making a substitute for the natural skin for use on wounds. The muscular coating of the intestines of animals is divested of mucous membrane, and then treated in a pepsin solution until the muscular fibres are half a row deep. After a second treatment with tanning and gallic acid, a tissue is produced which can take the place of the natural skin, and which, laid on the wound, is entirely absorbed during the healing process.

Some peculiar effects have been obtained in the artificial coloring of flowers. The discoloring agency employed is usually the fumes of cyanide of potassium. A few lumps of the crystal are put into a metal tube covered with cotton, on which the flowers are placed. If the tube is warmed the action is accelerated. Pink flowers of cloome and monarda become blue green and yellow, purple yields a blue or yellow, while anemone, elder and lupins, yellow, and so on.

The human brain contains a considerable proportion of phosphorus, varying from 1-20 to 1-250 of the entire mass. If the average weight of the Caucasian brain be taken at 47½ ounces it will then contain an amount of phosphorus amounting to from 7-10 to 2¾ ounces. A curious fact regarding this phosphorus in the human brain is that it is almost entirely wanting in the brain matter of idiots.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

The fly shuttle was inv

Publishers' Column.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person, who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamunga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
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WATERPROOF OVERCOATS.

The goods we offered to the subscribers of The Blade last year met with such favor that we have concluded this year to extend our list of waterproof coats for men and ladies. The prices this year will be somewhat lower than last, and we have added to the list. We offer both single texture and double texture, sewed and seamed. These goods are not pasted together, but SUBSTANTIALLY SEWED.

We prepay express charges, and deliver these goods at your nearest express office. When you order, please give your postoffice and your express office address.

Men's Waterproofs, Double Texture, with Detachable Capes.

No. 500 black diagonal, double stitch seams	$5 50
No. 501 tan diagonal, double stitch seams	5 50
No. 502, blue diagonal, double stitch seams	5 50
No. 550, Black Henrietta, double stitch seams	6 00
No. 551, Blue Henrietta, double stitch seams	6 00
No. 552, Tan Covert, double stitch seams	6 00
No. 600, Black All Wool, double stitch seams	7 50
No. 601, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams	7 50

Men's Double-Breasted Box, Velvet Collar, No Cape.

No. 700, Black, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped	$8 00
No. 701, Blue, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped	8 00

Regular sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, breast measure. A 40-inch coat is supposed to fit a man whose breast measure over his under coat is 40 inches. State size you want.

Women's Mackintoshes—Inverness Garments. (Sleeveless.)

No. 800, single texture, fast black, with 27-inch cape, unlined	$4 00
No. 801, single texture fast tan, with 27-inch cape, unlined	4 00
No. 802, single texture, fast blue, with 27-inch cape, unlined	4 00
No. 803, double texture, fast black Henrietta, 27-inch cape	6 00
No. 804, double texture, fast blue Henrietta, 27-inch cape	6 00
No. 805, double texture, black Henrietta, double cape detachable	7 00
No. 806, double texture, blue Henrietta, double cape, detachable	7 00

Give your bust measure and length down the back from collar seam to bottom of skirt. We shall require some little time for filling these orders, as they have to be forwarded East to the factory, after we get the orders, and in most cases the garments are made to order. Subscribers, therefore, should not look for these goods sooner than three weeks after they mail us the order. Address

THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

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It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expect might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

½ dozen teaspoons	$1 25
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1 35
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1 15
½ dozen table knives	2 25
½ dozen table knives	4 25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

Retarding Plants.

One of the most interesting novelties in horticulture is the art of retarding the blooming season of flowers. The London Times refers to a florist's establishment where the crowns of lilies are placed in an ice house to hibernate several months and are then brought into bloom between the end of summer and Christmas. All plants will not tolerate this treatment, but those which are hardy are not injured by it as a rule. The method is found to work well with the lily of the valley, lilacs, spiraeas, deutzias and Ghent azaleas. Between the resting operation in the hot house and retardation in cold storage some varieties of plants can now be made to bloom the year round.

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A woman in New York makes a living by selling pictures to the periodicals or the illustrators. She does it on commission. She gets a good deal of business because she is a good saleswoman, and the artists are generally poor hands at the selling business.

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Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6583—LADY'S WORK APRON.

Checked gingham is used for this serviceable apron, which is neat and tidy looking, besides being thoroughly protective. The bib is gathered at the waist line in front and joined to the belt that encircles the waist, the upper portion being attached to yoke-shaped bretelles that pass over the shoulders and join the belt in back. A cross strap buttoned on holds the bretelles in position. The gored skirt portions fit smoothly at the top and is joined to lower edge of belt. Triangular pockets placed at

No. 6583—LADY'S WORK APRON.

convenient depth, having their front edges inserted in the front gore seam. The lower edges are hemmed or faced, and a frill of embroidery trims the lower edge of yoke. Aprons in this style can be made from white or colored cambric, muslin, lawn, percale or gingham, trimmed with frills of the material, lace or embroidery, as shown, feather stitching, cross stitch or plainly completed.

The quantity of 36-inch wide material required to make this apron for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 2¾ yards; for a 36-inch size, 3 yards; for a 40-inch size, 3¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6583 and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 38-inch and 40-inch bust measure.

NO. 6648—MISS'S WAIST.

Cadet blue flecked camel's hair that matches the skirt made this simple and stylish waist, the only decorations being the rows of small smoked pearl buttons that hold the edges of the plaits. The waist is arranged over smooth linings fitted by single bust darts, and the other usual seams that close in centre front, the ma-

No. 6648—MISS'S WAIST.

terial closing under the plait on the left or at the shoulder and under-arm seam as preferred. A broad box plait is formed in centre front, forward turning side plaits meeting its edges, that are held by small buttons placed at equal distances on each side. The seamless back has two backward turning plaits that meet near the waist line, and are held by buttons. A belt is worn around the waist, and a close-fitting collar finishes the neck. The full, fashionable sleeves are gathered at the top, plaits being laid from the waists to near the elbow, that are decorated with buttons to match the waist. The model will develop stylishly in serge, cheviot, tweed, cashmere, homespun and other plain or mixed woolens. Plaid or changeable fabrics will make attractive waists to wear with different skirts, and small gilt buttons will decorate them tastefully.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this waist for a miss 12 years old is 2¼ yards; for a 14-year-old size, 2¼ yards; for a 16-year-old size, 2¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6648 and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for 12, 14 and 16-year-old misses.

NO. 6654—MISS'S SKIRT.

Mixed novelty suiting made this stylish skirt, that is shaped with four-gored sections and can be worn with a waist to match, or one of contrasting fabric. The front and side gores fit smoothly at the top, gradually widening to the lower edge, where it hangs in fashionable ripples, the result of its ingenious shaping. The back is cut on the double fold of material, a

No. 6654—MISS'S SKIRT.

placket being finished at the top, where the fullness is laid in two box plaits on each side, or it can be gathered if gathers are preferred. The top is finished with a belt, and the closing is in center back. The skirt can be lined throughout or deeply faced with cambric, haircloth or other stiff fabric. This skirt will make up stylishly in crepon, serge, cheviot, homespun, boucle cloth or other plain or mixed woolen material. In width can be given by making the front gore of plain or Chine silk, brocade, plaid, velvet or other contrasting fabric.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this skirt for a miss ten years old is 2¾ yards; for a fourteen-year-old size, 3 yards; for a sixteen-year-old size, 3¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6654, and retails for 30 cents, is cut in sizes for ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen-year-old misses.

NO. 6656—LADY'S NIGHT OR LOUNGING GOWN.

White cambric with finely tucked yoke and frills of nainsook is here daintily trimmed with embroidered insertion. The full fronts and back are gathered and joined in a prettily pointed yoke. This is trimmed with plaited frills and insertion to give the effect of a fashionable broad collar. A band of beaded insertion finishes the neck and supports a standing frill of the nainsook. The full bishop sleeves are gathered at the top and far enough from the lower edge to allow them to fall like a deep frill over the waists, the plaiting and insertion forming the trimming. The gowa closes in centre, buttonholes being worked through the box plait on right front to correspond to the buttons placed on the left front hem all the way down or half way, as preferred. Half-inch satin ribbon of a becoming shade is run through the beading that finishes the neck and sleeves, a bow

No. 6656—LADY'S NIGHT OR LOUNGING GOWN.

being tied on the front arm and at the neck. The gown is simple to make, and can be rendered very dressy or made up as plainly as desired. Fine muslin, linen, lawn, nainsook, cambric or wash silk is usually chosen for its development, but printed lawn, percale or flannelette make useful and practical gowns that can be used as negligee or lounging robes.

The quantity of 36-inch wide material required to make this night gown for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 7¾ yards; for a 36-inch size, 8 yards; for a 40-inch size, 8¼ yards; for a 42-inch size, 8½ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6656, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for a 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch, and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6666—GIRL'S COSTUME.

Fancy striped novelty goods, shaded in golden brown hues, are here stylishly associated with tabac velvet, the yoke being simulated by wine-colored lace over yellow satin. The mode is also suitable for dresses of linen batiste and cotton wash fabrics that are already being prepared for the approaching season, trimmed with insertion and edging of em-

No. 6666—GIRL'S COSTUME.

broidery. The full waist is made up over fitted linings on which the material is arranged smoothly at the top, the fullness at the lower edge being gathered at the waist line from the back, drooping in blouse style over the belt in front. Small gilt buttons with button-holes effect the closing in center back, and the neck is finished with a close standing collar of velvet. The yoke is laid on over the front in square outline, edged by the bands of velvet, the side bands being finished with points held by single, large, dull gilt filigree buttons. The gigot sleeves are shaped with single seams, gathered at the top and arranged over comfortable fitted linings, the wrists being completed by bands of velvet. The circular skirt has the fullness arranged in box plaits at the back, two on each side of the placket, that is made at the top of the center back seam. Velvet, ribbon, gimp, satin, chine, or Persian ribbon, bias bands of plaid, or striped silk or woolen material, can be used for decoration on dresses in this style. The added yoke can be omitted if not desired, the trimming giving the same effect. Stylish fancy plaids and clan tartans make pretty dresses, trimmed with dark velvet. In this style, cheviot, camel's hair, cashmere and other woolens developing attractively.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this dress for a girl 8 years old is 2¾ yards; for a 10-year-old size, 3¼ yards; for a 12-year-old size, 3⅝ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6666 and retails at 25 cents, is cut in sizes for 6, 8, 10 and 12-year-old girls.

NO. 6665—LADY'S TEA GOWN.

Figured cashmere made this pretty morning wrapper, the decorations being insertion and satin ribbon. A glove-fitted body lining of basque length is provided over which the full back and fronts are dis-

No. 6665—LADIES' TEA GOWN.

posed, the tops being shirred with a heading and applied at square-yoke depth. The upper part of the lining is faced to simulate a yoke, and the closing is effected invisibly in center front. The sides fit smoothly, displaying the graceful curves of the figure, and adding much to the graceful appearance of the gown. Stylish-pointed bretelles lie smoothly over the shoulders, the edges being trimmed with insertion and a twist of ribbon with rosettes at each side decorating the top. A stock collar of satin ribbon to match covers the close-fitting collar that finishes the neck. The fashionable Pequin sleeves are arranged over comfortably fitted linings, the wrists being finished with pointed bands or simulated cuffs. House gowns or wrappers of wool or cotton wash fabrics can be attractively developed by the mode, which is dainty enough for silk or more costly fabrics, with yoke and cuffs of contrasting fabric or color, a desirable combination can be effected.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this wrapper for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 6¼ yards; for a 36-inch size, 6¼ yards; for a 40-inch size, 6¾ yards; for a 42-inch size, 7 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6665 and retails for 35 cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch and 42-inch bust measure.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No cousin required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

To get BUST or BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

BUBBLES or MEDALS

"Best sarsaparillas." When you think of it how contradictory that term is. For there can be only one best in anything—one best sarsaparilla, as there is one highest mountain, one longest river, one deepest ocean. And, that best sarsaparilla is——?.... There's the rub. You can measure mountain height and ocean depth, but how test sarsaparilla? You could if you were chemists. But then do you need to test it? The World's Fair Committee tested it,—and thoroughly. They went behind the label on the bottle. What did this sarsaparilla test result in? Every make of sarsaparilla shut out of the Fair except Ayer's. So it was that Ayer's was the only sarsaparilla admitted to the World's Fair. The committee found it the best. They had no room for anything that was not the best. And as the best, Ayer's Sarsaparilla received the medal and awards due its merits. Remember the word "best" is a bubble any breath can blow; but there are pins to prick such bubbles. Those others are blowing more "best sarsaparilla" bubbles since the World's Fair pricked the old ones. True, but Ayer's Sarsaparilla has the medal. The pin that scratches the medal proves it gold. The pin that pricks the bubble proves it wind. We point to medals, not bubbles, when we say: The best sarsaparilla is Ayer's.

Still have doubts? Send for the "Curebook."
It kills doubts and cures doubters.
J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

SPECIAL STAMPS FOR CITIES.

A Bill to Permit Big Cities to Have Postage Stamps of Special Designs.

Representative Pugh, of Kentucky, has prepared a bill to permit cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants to obtain postage stamps of special designs, says the Washington Post. His bill provides that any number of inhabitants of any city of the United States containing a population of 100,000 or more, as shown by the United States census of 1890, or as shown by any future United States census, as may desire, may unite in petition for the issuance of postage stamps of special designs commemorating the history of said city or the memory of its inhabitants thereof now deceased, but no such special postage stamp shall be designed, made or used to advertise the business of any individual, firm, corporation or society.

That petition, asking for these special stamps must be delivered to the postmaster of their city and by him forwarded to the postmaster general at Washington, who shall report the same to the secretary of the treasury, and upon his proceeding that the provisions of this act have been complied with, shall furnish postage stamps of special design to the postmaster of that city for the use of the people upon the same terms and conditions that postage stamps are now supplied.

Representative Pugh says there is considerable sentiment throughout the country in favor of stamps of special designs, and he hopes to receive a favorable report of his bill at an early day. Mr. Pugh in his bill provides against any fraud or deception being practiced on the government, and that the cost of engraving and printing these stamps will fall on the people of the city and not the taxpayers of the country.

He Seldom Does.

Somehow it always gives us an odd sensation to hear a boy under 10 say "Thank you" without being prompted.—Atchison Globe.

WHEEL WITHIN WHEEL.

Astonishing Sort of Bicycle Which is Being Built in Britain.

A British genius has not only invented

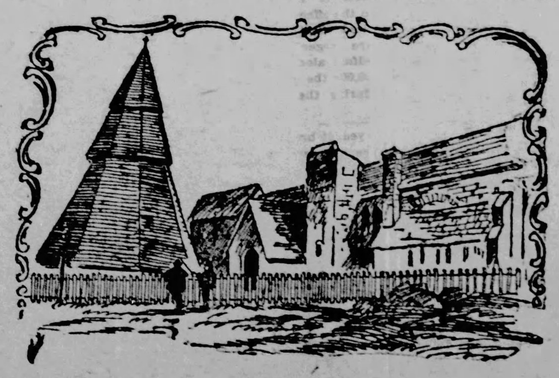
and patented, but is now building for the market, the extraordinary bicycle pictured here.

Lightness with simplicity of construction appear to be its strongest points; the rider, being suspended below the machine's center of gravity, maintains a level seat whatever the speed or grade. Power is obtained by the simple action of a spring attached to the treadles, and great speed is promised.

A Curious Church.

Here is a drawing of Brookland Church, situated six miles from Romney in Kent, England. The most curious part of the building is the bell tower which is constructed of massive timber. It is detached from the body of the sacred building, and it will be acknowledged, is of unusual form.

The church itself does not call for special comment, but within it is a leaden font in the Norman style enriched with two rows of minute figures forming a kind of calendar with zodiacal signs.—Newcastle Chronicle.



CHURCH AND TOWER, BROOKLAND, ENGLAND.

WEE BITS OF KNOWLEDGE.

A well know firm gives away $30,000 a year in dress goods samples.

Small fur-trimmed toques are much worn by smart feminine promenaders.

Handkerchiefs should not be perfumed save by a faint odor of sachet powder.

A Trilby theatre party last week consisted of sixteen young girls, all of them attired in pink.

Some of the new ginghams are in such pronounced plaids that one at a glance thinks them woolens.

The department that has but little left over at this season feels that the year has been a profitable one.

One of the prettiest women in Paris is Mme. Paquin, who is the modiste for half the royalties of Europe.

To lose one of the stylish buttons on a swell gown means the disappearance of a tidy little sum of money.

Though trains are not worn, nine men out of ten manage to walk on the promenading woman's gown.

Mrs. James Potter is essentially fond of small turbans. Rarely, if ever does she wear any other form of millinery.

$100—Reward—$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials. Address,

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

When People May Dance.

At a gathering of King's Daughters at London, Ont., the other day, Mrs. Graham, of Toronto, on being asked if dancing should be tolerated, replied: "Yes, but only in the morning, an hour before breakfast, and then the woman should dance with her husband or brother." This encouragement of morning dancing, at a time when morning prayers are said to be falling into disuse, may possibly strike some Christians as unwise. And there are sedate heads of families not necessarily Christian, who would kick vigorously if they were asked to dance an hour before reading the morning paper and going to business. Farmers, also, who have to begin work very early in the morning, will be apt to complain if this dancing rule should be enforced.

Something Internal.

"Booser is trying to drown his troubles." "What is it, dyspepsia?"—Detroit Tribune.

ANNEKE JANS.

NO DECISION IN FAVOR OF HER HEIRS HAS BEEN GIVEN.

There is No Case, and Trinity Church Can Not Be Ousted—The Plain Facts.

A few weeks ago paragraphs began to appear in the newspapers from various points stating that "a decision of the supreme court" had been given in New York which rendered it certain that the Anneke Jans heirs would now obtain the property owned by the corporation of Trinity church in New York city. These items generally mentioned persons who had been notified that their claims were valid.

The Blade determined to get to the bottom of these notices. It was plain that, either a new decision had been rendered, or that it had not. If there was such a decision, the agitation was legitimate; if not, then it was clear it is simply a new scheme to dupe persons believing themselves heirs into paying out more money to the "agents" who assume to be conducting the matter.

Letters were written to various persons named as having valid claims with a request for information as to the alleged decision; the date on which it was rendered, the number and title of the case, so that an official transcript could be obtained.

Not one of those who replied could give this information; and the "agents" whose addresses were given did not reply to The Blade's letters of inquiry.

Then the matter was pushed along other lines. Inquiries were addressed to various lawyers and officials both in New York city and Albany, the answers to which show that the present agitation is a fraud; that there has been no decision; that there has been no case in court; that the whole matter is a huge swindle.

The Basis of the Claim.

Anneke Jans, a Dutch woman, and her husband, Bogardus, were the owners of a farm of about 60 acres, lying west of the present line of Broadway, in what is now the down-town section of New York city. It was farming land in 1700. Now it is in the business section of the city, and of enormous value.

Anneke Jans was not "the daughter of the King of Holland," the farm was not given her by that monarch. It was a homstead granted to her as a settler, by the colonial governor, and the Holland government had nothing to do with it.

When Anneke Jans and her husband died, the Dutch colonial authorities resumed possession of the land. The English came into possession of New York by conquest in 1674. This land appears to have remained as government property for about 20 years. Edward Cornbury was appointed governor of the colony in 1702, and removed from office in 1708. In the year 1705, he gave a considerable tract of land, of which the old Anneke Jans farm was but a part, to Trinity church, which has held possession ever since—almost 200 years.

Trinity's Title Perfect.

Anneke Jans had children, but, as above stated, the Dutch governor did not regard any claims they might have, when he took possession of the farm on her death. It remained the property of the Dutch colonial government, and passed into the hands of the British governor when England conquered the Dutch province. Governor Cornbury gave it to the church, and it is too late to review the justice or injustice of the matter now.

Whether the Dutch governor took wrongful possession, and whether Cornbury perpetuated that wrong in 1705, cuts no figure. The statute of limitations in New York bars any legal redress. Trinity has been in undisputed possession for 191 years, and there is absolutely no possibility of overthrowing its proprietorship. The sooner all the alleged heirs understand that there is, in every state, a statute of limitations, generally 21 years, after which the legal title to real estate is perfect and unassailable, the better it will be for their pockets.

The Only Court Decisions.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. H. Callanan, managing editor of the Albany Journal, The Blade's letter of inquiry was answered by Hon. John T. McDonough, a leading lawyer of Albany, N. Y., in the following letter:

In 1883 the Court of Chancery of this statee decided that the heirs of Annetje or Anneke Jantz Bogardus, who died at Albany in 1663, were not entitled to the Trinity church property claimed by them.

This decision was affirmed by the highest court in the state (the Court of Errors), in 1835.

As late as the year 1879, a proceeding was begun before Surrogate Rogers, in Albany, by one of the heirs, for letters of administration on her estate, and an ancient Bible and a pair of ear-rings were produced as personal assets of the estate.

It was referred to Hon. F. H. Woods to take the proof and report. On his report the surrogate refused to grant letters. This decision was sustained by the Supreme court, and subsequently by the Court of Appeals.

I know of no later decision.

What Trinity Says.

A letter was also addressed by The Blade to the Corporation of Trinity Church, which was answered by S. P. Nash, No. 67 Wall street, who is the legal adviser of that corporation:

Editor Blade—Rev. Dr. Dix has handed over to me your letter in reference to the Anneke Jans claim, with a request that I will send you an answer. I enclose you statement issued by the corporation in 1891, to which you allude. It is as true to-day as it was then. There are no suits pending, and have not been for many years, nor are any negotiations going on for settlement of claims against the corporation. I have been counsel for the corporation for some years prior to the date of that circular, and am still such counsel. There has been no decision of the court such as referred to in your letter, and the statements that appear from time to time in various parts of the country as to such negotiations and suits have no foundation in fact. Yours very truly, S. P. NASH.

The circular referred to in the above letter is as follows:

To All Whom it May Concern:

As letters are being constantly received from various places in the United States making inquiries about supposed suits pending against this corporation in respect to its property, or about negotiations assumed to be on foot in respect to the alleged claims of the descendants of Anneke Jans or of other persons, notice is hereby given that no such suits are pending, and no such negotiations are going on, and all persons who suppose themselves to be descendants of Anneke Jans, or otherwise interested in claims hostile to the title of this corporation, are cautioned against paying out money to any person offering the pendency of such suits or negotiations.

MORGAN DIX, Rector.
S. V. R. CRUGER, Comptroller.
STEPHEN P. NASH, Warden.

No Case Pending or Decided.

The law firm of this city, of which Hon. Frank H. Hurd is the head, took up the matter of this alleged decision, through their New York correspondent, Hon. Leonidas Dianis, a prominent attorney who has an office at No. 3 Broad street, in the Drexel building, New York city. Mr. Dennis writes that he has taken considerable time and looked the matter up carefully, and he finds that there has been no case in the supreme court of New York for upward of 20 years by which the status of this case has been in any way called into question or determined. The last case was that of the Albany surrogate, denying letters of administration, referred to above, in Mr. McDonough's letter. He adds: "Nor is there any case, action or proceeding now pending in the courts of this state to determine the right of the heirs of said Jans or Bogardus to any property whatsoever. In short, the claims of the heirs of this woman have long been known and discredited; and were really determined in the case of Bogarius vs. Trinity church, 4 Paige 178."

Why It is Revived.

The reasons for the circulation of another story of "a favorable decision" are evidently to get more money out of credulous heirs. The best advice The Blade can give is to pay nothing to anybody; don't waste your time or money in pursuing a matter which has been decided long ago, and which decision can not be reversed because the statute of limitations of New York state confirms Trinity in possession of the property.

She Was Once a Cat.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox, who writes verse, believes in transmigration, and thinks that in some former stage of her existence she was a pussy cat. That may account for her sticking to the mews.—Wilmington Star.

Preferred to Ride.

"Why did you refuse young Stingyman?" "He asked me to walk through life with him."—Detroit Free Press.

If you want a sure relief for pains in the back, side, chest, or limbs, use an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

BEAR IN MIND—Not one of the host of counterfeits and imitations is as good as the genuine.

PIANOS! ORGANS! FREE!

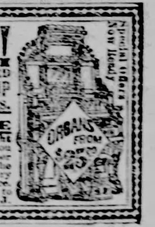
TEST TRIAL FOR 30 DAYS IN YOUR OWN HOME. NO MONEY REQUIRED

PIANOS-ORGANS FROM $25.00 UP

Including a Complete Musical Outfit, CASH or EASY PAYMENTS.

NEW SOUVENIR CATALOGUE

A work of art illustrated in 10 colors. Worth its weight in gold. Will be sent free to any reader who will write for it. We have to do it to get it, for it to-day please. Remember this is the old established house of Cornish & Co., the only one that sells exclusively from Factory to Family direct. A single instrument at wholesale price. Over 20,000 in use. Reference, any Bank in Washington. Write at once. Mention Paper. CORNISH & CO., Estab. 30 years, Washington, N. J.



THE BLADE'S Great Seed Premiums

THE BEST COLLECTION OF SEEDS EVER OFFERED BY ANY PUBLICATION.

MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION

—OF—

Choice Northern Grown, Tested

Vegetable and Flower Seeds

ABSOLUTELY GIVEN AWAY

To all who remit one dollar for subscription or renewal after this date.

Every Collection Sent Postpaid.

By special arrangement with Messrs. MAY & CO., St. Paul, Minn., we will send, postpaid, Special Collections of Vegetable and Flower Seeds to all who subscribe for the WEEKLY BLADE. These collections are put up for the exclusive use of the WEEKLY BLADE. Many of the varieties offered are new and choice, being introduced for the first time this season, and retail at 10c, 15c and 25c per packet. Other sorts are standard varieties, which have stood the test in all sections and proved thoroughly reliable.

Please Read Our Offers Carefully.

OFFER NO. 1.
Farm Collection.

This includes the best standard varieties for family use. To any one sending $1.00 for a year's subscription to The Weekly Blade, we will send this collection, postpaid, free.

CORN—Evergreen	$0.05
PEAS—May's Premier	.10
MUSK MELON—Hackensack	.05
PUMPKIN—The Mammoth	.10
BEET—Eclipse	.05
CUCUMBER—Long Green	.05
RADISH—Rosy Queen	.10
WATERMELON—Ice King	.10
CARROT—Danvers	.05
TOMATO—Early Tree	.15
TURNIP—Early White	.05
SQUASH—Vegetable Marrow	.05
PARSNIP—Hollow Crown	.05
CABBAGE—Early Surprise	.10
RADISH—Long Scarlet	.05
BEAN—Early Refugee	.05
ONION—Red Wethersfield	.05
LETTUCE—Prize Head	.05
SPINACH—Long Standing	.05
TOMATO—Acme	.05
Retail price	$1.35

Packet alone to paid up Subscribers, 55c.

OFFER NO. 2.
Flower Collection.

To any one sending us $1.00 for a year's subscription to The Weekly Blade we will send postpaid this beautiful collection of free flowering annuals:

PANSY—Royal Mixed	$0.25
DIANTHUS or Pinks	.05
MIGNONETTE—Giant White	.10
POPPY—Carnonia Flore Pleno	.10
MORNING GLORY—Tall	.05
PHLOX—Mixed Colors	.05
ALYSSUM—Sweet	.05
NASTURTIUM—Tall Mixed	.05
VERBENAS—Mixed Colors	.05
ANTIRRHINUM—Or Snap Dragon	.05
PETUNIA—Rose Queen	.10
MARIGOLD—Yellow Queen	.15
ZINNIAS—Giant Mixed	.10
BACHELOR'S BUTTON—Or Globe Amaranth	.05
SWEET PEAS—Mixed Colors	.05
Retail price	$1.25

Packet alone to paid up Subscribers, 55c.

OFFER NO. 3.
Novelty Package.

In this assortment are the newest and choicest varieties of late introduction including many kinds which are sold at 10c. the package, and 25c. per packet. To any one sending $1.10 for The Weekly Blade for one year we will send this magnificent collection, postpaid.

TOMATO—Grand Paslfe	$0.20
ONION—Perfect Pickling	.10
PEAS—May's Premier	.10
BEET—Lightning	.10
BEAN—R. P. Golden Wax	.10
CUCUMBER—Garden Gem	.10
RADISH—Queen of Market	.10
PARSNIP—Magnum Bonum	.10
WATER MELON—The Ice King	.10
CORN—Western Beauty	.10
ONION—Early Flat Italian Challenge	.10
ONION—Italian Giant	.10
PANSY—Star Mixed	.10
VERBENAS—Mam. Mixed	.10
MIGNONETTE—Gabled	.10
POPPY—Imperial Mixed	.10
Retail price	$2.10

Packet alone to paid up Subscribers, 85c.

OFFER NO. 4.
Early Kitchen Garden.

The earliest varieties of the different classes are included in this assortment. For $1.00 we will send The Weekly Blade one year and this collection of Vegetable Seeds, postpaid.

TOMATO—First of All	$0.10
LETTUCE—Early Market	.10
CORN—Early Minnesota	.05
ONION—Early Barletta	.05
BEANS—Early Refugee	.05
BEET—Lightning	.10
CARROT—Early Scarlet Horn	.05
CABBAGE—Early Jersey Wakefield	.05
WATER MELON—Phinney's Early	.05
TURNIP—Purple Top	.05
TOMATO—Early Tree	.15
PUMPKIN—Early Mammoth	.10
CUCUMBER—Early Frame	.05
PEAS—First and Best	.05
RADISH—Early Scarlet, Turnip	.05
Retail price	$1.10

Packet alone to paid up Subscribers, 55c.

OFFER NO. 5.
Sweet Peas and Pansies for Ladies.

The following collection, including 6 ounce packages of Sweet Peas and a liberal collection of mixed Pansies in packets, we have had arranged especially for our lady readers. This collection and The Weekly Blade may be had one year for only $1.00.

1 OZ. SWEET PEA—Grace May	$0.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEA—Pure white	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEA—Duke of Clarence. Rich rosy claret	.10
1 OZ. Sweet Pea—Blushing Beauty. Light pink	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEA—Minnie Kenyon. Beautiful lavender shade	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEA—Blanche Ferry. Pink and white	.10
1

"FOR MY SAKE."

Three little words, but full of tenderest meaning,
Three little words the heart can scarcely hold;
Three little words, but on their import dwelling
What a wealth of love their syllables unfold!

"For my sake" cheer the suffering, help the needy;
On earth this was my work; I give it thee.
If thou would follow in thy Master's footsteps,
Take up my cross and come and lean on me.

"For my sake" let the harsh word die unuttered,
That trembles on the swift, impetuous tongue;
"For my sake" check the quick, rebellious feeling
That rises when thy brother does thee wrong.

"For my sake" press with steadfast patience onward,
Although the race be hard, the battle long,
Within my Father's house are many mansions;
There thou shalt rest and join the victor's song.

And if in coming days the world revile thee,
If "for my sake" thou suffer pain and loss,
Bear on, faint heart; thy Master went before thee;
They only wear his crown who share his cross.

YOU TAKE AN OAR.

STORY TOLD OF A WHITE SQUALL WHICH HAS A MORAL.

Paralysis of Fear—It Kills the Power of Accomplishment—What Women Have Learned.

In a book recently published under the title of Architects of Fate is told the following little story:

"A white squall caught a party of tourists on a lake in Scotland, and threatened to capsize the boat. When it seemed as if the crisis was really come, the largest and strongest man in the party in a state of intense fear, said, 'Let us pray.' 'No, no, my man,' shouted the bluff old boatman; 'let the little man pray. You take an oar.'"

The moral in this little tale lies, of course, like that of the immortal Captain Jack Bunsby's sayings, in the application of it. It teaches plainly two things—one, the paralyzing force of fear, which grows and grows in proportion as its influence is allowed a control. Doubtless the terrible storm with its wild roar of winds and waves which it seemed beyond man's power to struggle with, was sufficient to strike terror to the heart, unless that heart was anchored in a supreme faith in the omnipotence of good, but the moment that was lost and the strong man said to himself, "I am mortally afraid," that moment his possibilities of coping with the danger were gone. Absolutely nothing so vitiates the strength; absolutely nothing so takes away from man the supremacy which is his, if he knows and exercises it, as fear, whether it be of something in the present or of what may be in the future. It is not necessary to apply this truth only to moments when some great peril approaches, but to all things in every day life. Fear has a wearing effect upon both the mental and physical. Many people hold that attitude continuously, and it kills all that makes life worth the living. No high accomplishment is possible; no intellectual or spiritual growth can be made if the ordinary condition is one of timidity and depression.

Yet such a habit can be cured. "You may fear an event or an individual," says one writer, "and if you do not in mind resist that fear, it will in some way wear on the body. You may in mind resist it for days and feel no change. Yet be sure that persistent attitude or attempt to bring courage kept up in your darkest, most depressing moments, when you have no heart to meet anything—be sure that at last strength will come—a mood of mind in which you may see the thing in a new light; you may see how needless was your fear, how much imagination magnified it, as you may see how puny are your opponents, and when in mind you feel above them, you are above them and must conquer them." That is, you must build up a spiritual force which is ever at your command, and which will hold you steady, whatever of danger and suffering seems to be advancing towards you. Had this "largest and strongest man of the party" who was overcome by intense fear possessed the force habitually, he would not have been so overcome.

"You take an oar." In those words lies the second lesson. The sturdy old boatman meant no irreverence when he said, "Let the little man pray," but he did mean that the strong man had the responsibility of strength, and that it was his duty to put it into action. There is nothing truer than that God helps those who help themselves. It is an expression of law. We know that the body grows strong through exercise. We also know that a disused limb or organ becomes in time atrophied. It is the same thing upon the mental and spiritual planes. It must be, since all of Nature's laws are of universal application. When every opportunity for action is denied to us, then is the time to rest wholly and tranquilly upon the Supreme, and to remember that as we are a part of the Divine, no real harm to us is possible, Not that prayer and action are incompatible, but that so long as there is anything to do, any effort which can be made, no one should lie back and expect that work which is his, to be done for him while he is idly asking for help. If there is an "oar" to take, it must always be taken and wielded with a will. In other words, it is absolutely necessary to make self-reliance a part of the character we are building day by day. "Man is not merely the architect of his own fortune, but he must lay the bricks himself."

These two things, "casting out fear" and self-reliance," are the lessons which women have been learning for the last few decades, and the results are seen in the progress they have made in so many directions. For the centuries they had been trusting to men to bear them over the rough places in life; to make crooked paths straight; to do work which they have now learned is their own to do. Then came the courage of their convictions to the few, and the entering wedge was sturdily driven in., in the face of all obstacles and all opposition. And year by year women have grown more courageous, more self-reliant.

My thought was turned in this direction this morning by a paragraph in the Woman's Journal. It was this:

"The island of Guernsey has adopted the state regulation of vice. The London Methodist Times says this was literally a 'deed of darkness,' since the measure was passed by the legislature while the shades of evening were closing, in an unlighted chamber. The vote stood 18 to 16, members of the royal court, by whom the proposed law was drafted, deputies by whom it was suggested, and several parochial rectors (!) constituting the bulk of the affirmative. That the parochial rectors should have voted for such a law is especially instructive. Hitherto the women have generally had the aid of the ministers in opposing the licensing of prostitution. When even ministers are induced to support this evil legislation, it is high time that the women had votes to represent their own opinions."

Then followed the statement that the legislature also voted that fine and imprisonment should be the portion of any of the victims of man's licensed passions who ventured to approach him with solicitation, but defeated an amendment to make the same offense in men meet with like punishment.

Now a thing like this in a so-called Christian country, and similar things which have occurred in the United States, only go to show that women must rely upon themselves for self-protection; must be fearless in their efforts to change such laws into those which make for decency and morality everywhere.

Yet back of the laws upon the statute books must come something which rests largely in the hands of the women to accomplish. It is to educate their children, both boys and girls, into a knowledge of the laws of their own being. It is to make them understand that purity of thought and action is equally important for both; that one can not sin against the other without some where and some time reaping bitter fruit. And mothers should teach their boys that if theirs is the greatest strength, theirs should be the greatest self-control; that the possession of stronger passions will not serve as an excuse for moral degradation in the making of character. They should be impressed with the inflexibility of the law that whatsoever they sow that must they surely reap; and that repentance for broken, wasted lives will not restore them to purity and wholeness.

And then women must go fearlessly forth from the home and demand without ceasing that the same law shall govern the sexes, that socially and legally they shall be made equal in responsibility, as they are and must be morally. And until such laws as those enacted in Guernsey are removed from the statute books, work without ceasing ought to be the rule of woman's life.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

On first awaking from my sleep
I should pray that every breathing thing
May wake to saying wisdom, vast
As the wide and boundless universe.

"PIN-A-POPPY SHOW."

Pincushions of Various Sizes and Divers Sorts and Conditions.

The Fancy-work editor knows this is a subject of general interest because everybody uses pins (and therefore needs a cushion), and nearly everybody has made a greater or less number of these needful little articles since the days when our mothers basted the silk over two rounds of cardboard, basted them together, and instructed us to sew them together with "over and over" stitches that must not show!

Fashions change in pin cushions, as they do in everything else, and this week the editor flatters herself that she offers something "new and unique."

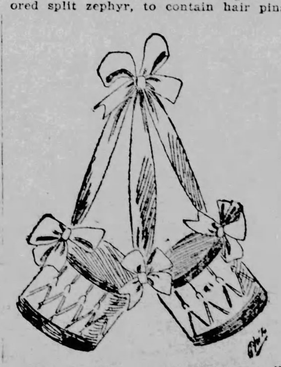
Elaborate Cushion.

A very elegant cushion destined for a bride's boudoir is made in this way. The large square cushion is covered with pale-blue velvet; a wide frill of white silk lace is put around the edge, caught up at each of the four sides with full rosettes of blue

ribbon. For the center, a square of silk bolting cloth was hemstitched about one and one-half inches from the edge; the bride's monogram was worked in silk forget-me-nots in the natural colors, in the middle of the square, and a bunch of the same flowers, filled each corner.

Drum Cushion.

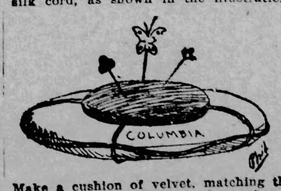
Get a couple of cardboard ribbon bolts, and cover them smoothly with old-gold satin. Band them at top and bottom with narrow cardinal ribbon, and stretch rows of red tinsel cord from one to the other, drawing them together near the top with a strap of ribbon. Take out the heads of the drums, and filled them with curled hair, covering the top of one with old gold velvet to form a pin cushion, and the other with a cover knit of gold-colored split zephyr, to contain hair pins.



Furnish each drum with suspension ribbons, terminating in full bows at each side, and tack the bows lightly where the drums come together. If the bottoms of the drums are furnished with sandpaper, another feature will be added to this little convenience, which may be hung near the dressing bureau.

The Life Preserver.

Cut from any suitable material two pieces shaped like the round doughnuts with holes in the middle, that are familiar to all of us. Make the pieces large enough to allow a seam at the outer circumference, and stitch them firmly together, leaving a small opening through which to fill the cushion. When this is done, close the roll and decorate it with silk cord, as shown in the illustration.



Make a cushion of velvet, matching the cord in color; fasten it in the center of the ring, and trace the name of a favorite yacht or college crew on the roll, with gold paint.

Cream satin for the outer cushion, with cardinal in the center is a pretty combination of colors, though any others that contrast nicely may be used.

DONE IN FAITH.

Just one good deed! and though others
ne'er know it,
Angels will carry it up to the throne;
At the hereafter, Christ's records will
show it,
"Fed thou the hungry? Come hither,
mine own."

Just one kind word! and though others
ne'er guess it,
Angels will chant it at vespers tonight;
At the hereafter, Christ's promise will
bless it,
"Cheered thou the weary? Stand thou
on my right."

Just one sharp struggle! though no eyes
behold it,
Though to the world we have grievously failed;
At the hereafter, when angels have
told it,
Christ's voice will answer, "Thy faith
has prevailed."

—Warner Snoad.

The childhood shows the man,
As morning shows the day.

Did you ever notice how the interest in the welfare of the children is coming to the front in every community; how, in every direction, efforts are being made to give them education, and opportunities, that will develop in them their best abilities? To be sure people have always been interested in the welfare of their own offspring, and, in a general way, in all children, but it used to be that when they were sent to school, if they went, the usual number of days in the week; and weeks in the year very little more was looked for. All were expected to pursue the same studies whether they had any especial talent for one, more than another, and they were also expected to have such implicit confidence in their teachers that they—the teachers—were allowed to do all the thinking that was done and the pupil accepted whatever they said without, in many cases, an idea of what was meant.

In regard to teachers, it was generally thought, in the days of which I speak, that any one would do to instruct the little children, and teachers, young in years and experience, were given the task of imparting the first principles of an education to boys and girls. Of course there were exceptions to this condition of affairs, but you all can remember when such ways obtained.

Now, how different. We have come to realize that it requires the very best teachers for the lowest grades of school, that the first lessons learned must be correct ones, that future teachers may not have double work, in being obliged to unlearn, if I may use the expression—false ideas and false methods acquired by their pupils. The kindergarten is teaching even the youngest children to do their own thinking, to observe for themselves and how to put the result of their observation to practical uses. In the public schools the children are taught those things that will be of benefit to them every day of their lives; to become interested in the affairs of their cities and states and in matters of national importance. They read the current news of the day, and in that manner combine instruction in geography, spelling, reading and of the history that is being made right along; they do not spend hours committing pages of knowledge that, while it is well to have if they can, should not take the place of the present interests.

Of course this is not yet an accomplished fact; our schools are not yet on a very high plane in this new departure, but they are steadily improving. A short time ago, as a certain school was ready for dismissal at noon, the teacher asked how many could tell her what event of interest occurred the previous day. No one could answer her, and she sent them home without informing them. When school re-opened in the afternoon nearly every child was prepared to tell her that the Governor of Ohio was inaugurated the day before, and for how long a term he had been elected and much other information on the subject. They had inquired of friends, and read the newspapers that noon to some purpose, and one boy seemed to voice the sentiment of all when he declared that the teacher wouldn't catch him forgetting to read the papers again.

Before the school or the kindergarten, however, comes the home training that has so much to do with the future of the child, and Marion S. Allen, a new comer to our Cozy Corner, sends this query to the mothers, and others, who have had the training of children.

"How soon can we begin the education of our children? and how can we teach them anything more than to be obedient. I am living beyond the help of kindergartens, or anything except a very poor grade of country school, and that is of no use to me, as my children are too young to send so far. So I have done as so many others have—come to the Cozy Corner for advice. Please give it to me."

One of our regular, and welcome, visitors has something to say of her methods of teaching the first principles of a good life to her children. Perhaps Mrs. Allen may find some help from her letter. But that must not deter others from writing on the subject, as it is one of vital importance to every mother and father, for

"Just as the twig is bent
The tree is inclined."

Now listen to Mrs. A. F. G.:

Here I come again and riding my usual hobby, too, for I confess that nothing interests me so much as the dear children and all that concerns them. "Grumbler," I can sympathize with you, I, too, am not strong physically, and have three little ones—three here, and one tiny baby boy in a better and brighter home than we could give him. I find my hands and heart full, and know how hard it is to be patient, but there is one thing that helps me, and perhaps it may help "Grumbler" and other worried mothers. In the morning and all through the day I repeat over and over to myself these words: "Be pleasant. Be patient. Be wise." It is a little thing, but it often helps me to keep back the cross or impatient word and to deal carefully with childish offenses.

In dealing with my boys I have found it a help to present their faults to them as giants, which they are to conquer. They like to prove themselves strong and brave enough to overcome a giant and trample under foot, and many times they will really try, the subject being presented in this way, when any amount of talking or scolding would fall upon heedless ears. My little son prays to God to help him "come over (overcome) all the giants; Giant Ill-temper, Gian: Selfishness and Giant Quarrelness," and he adds: "I'll try, myself, too."

The "Giant Quarrelness" is a terror to me. If any of the mothers of the Cozy Corner have discoverd a way to keep the ugly fellow out of their homes, I wish they would make it known.

One question and I will close. Suppose a child makes a request and the mother in haste, or impatience, answers no, then afterward decides that she might have granted the request. In such a case is it wiser for her to hold to her first answer, thereby depriving the child of innocent pleasure, or tell him she has changed her mind? Would not the latter cause encourage teasing and persistence another time?

Mrs. D. comes this week asking some very earnest questions. And while we are waiting to hear from our friends on the subject let me give here, and all others who need it, this thought by Coventry Patmore:

The man who, though his fights be all defeats,
Still fights, enters at last
The heavenly Jerusalem's rejoicing streets
With glory more, and more triumphant rites
Than always-conquering Joshua's, when his blast
The frightened walls of Jericho down cast;
And lo! the glad surprise
Of peace beyond surmise,
More than in common saints, forever in his eyes.

Seeing the remark in the last paper that "the man who does not go through his appointed work in this life has lived in vain," thought I would take this vacant chair in the Cozy Corner, with your permission, and chat awhile on the subject. A little chat may bring out new ideas. I had thought not one of God's creatures lived in vain. How many of us struggle along for years, not finding our "appointed work" even then; we are hedged in by circumstances so that we find it impossible to do that which we feel is our life work and which we so much desire to do. We keep on doing the duties nearest us, waiting for the opportunity that never comes, our whole being fully in the work which we cannot accomplish. What becomes of that life-long desire, those hopes and plans? Are they lost?—Mrs. D.

Dear Mrs. D., do we not all go through "our appointed work" even though we are unable to accomplish that which we think is our life work? That is another thought for us to consider.

For a letter which expresses a great deal in the fewest possible words, we commend the following from "Farmers Wife:"

My prize received. I am well pleased with it and thank you kindly for the same.

Emma R. asks for the words of Lily Dale and the "Old Harper" to be sent for publication among the Old Favorites. One verse of the last mentioned poem runs thus:

Bring my harp to me again,
Let me wake a gentle strain,
Let me hear its chords once more,
Ere I pass to yon bright shore.

H. M. and several others have asked for suggestions for valentine parties. Who will send them, in season for use this year?

Mrs. D. would like to know "what is astrachan fur?"

Dollie B. wishes to hear of a cure for cold sores on her lips. Please answer soon as Dollie wishes to attend a leap year party soon, and feels "most sure" that her lips will not be cured without some outside assistance.

Esther, do not allow that thought to trouble you for a moment. I knew your omission was not intentional.

Mrs. B. E. L.:—We cannot give addresses for private correspondence. Can you not send your recipes to The Blade, so that more than one person could be benefited by them?

Mrs. Hamilton H. S.:—Your request has been complied with, with much pleasure.

H. M.:—The refreshments usually served at such a party as you mention are sandwiches and coffee or chocolate, or cake and cream. You can bring in the plates and napkins first and the refreshments afterwards from another room, or you can have a table in the room on which can be placed all things needed. Have a white cloth on the table and have it prettily decorated with flowers if possible. In the center, place a lamp with a shade, then group your cups and plates so they will show to the best advantage. When you are ready to serve your refreshments have some one to pour your coffee at the table and hand it to the guests from there. Cake and cream can be brought in at the time of serving. If you have pretty china the table will add much to the beauty of your rooms. Paper napkins may be obtained for 25 cents per hundred, or 50 for a better quality.

Mrs. E. S. L. Thompson, Muncie, Ind., who is an old friend of the Household, giving much valuable information in painting, etc., for the home worker, has just issued a new pamphlet telling about all sorts of things, which the Cozy Corner would find very useful for fancy work. If any of you will send her a two-cent stamp, she will mail you a circular giving a synopsis of the contents, and then you will know whether you want it or not.

COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

"Blest Be Those Feasts With Simple Plenty Crowned."

"After good bread comes cake," as the children used to be told when they complained of hunger that required cake or cookies to assuage it. Our mothers knew very well that the bread was better for us, and we knew, that after the "good bread" there was seldom any room for cake. Last week the Cook devoted her space in The Blade exclusively to bread, how to make it and how to keep it. This week, by way of reward, she will give her friends some of the admirable recipes for cake that have been sent to her from the Household cooks from far and near.

For a cake that will keep well, and so be ready for unexpected company, Minnie sends the following, which she warrants to keep as long as "the children and those of larger growth are kept from it."

Fruit Cake.

Two cupfuls brown sugar; 1 cupful Orleans molasses; 1 1-2 cupfuls butter; 1 cupful sour cream; 1 lb. currants; 1 1-2 lbs. each of raisins and citron; 2 teaspoonfuls cinnamon; 1 teaspoonful cloves; 1 nutmeg; 1 tablespoonful vanilla; 1 teaspoonful soda and 3 cupfuls of flour. Bake slowly for 2 hours in one large or two small cakes.

Molasses Cookies.

1 cupful molasses, 1 cupful lard or butter, 1 tablespoonful ginger, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful salt, ½ cupful of cold water and flour enough to roll moderately thin. Bake in a quick oven. These will be all the better for keeping.

Molasses Cake.

1 cupful New Orleans molasses, ½ cupful butter, ½ cupful cold water, 1 heaping teaspoonful of ginger, 1 teaspoonful soda, a little salt and 2½ cupfuls of flour.

Filling for Cakes.

Chocolate—1 cupful brown sugar, ½ tablespoonful of butter, 1½ tablespoonfuls water, and 1 square of chocolate. Melt all together over the fire, remove, and stir till cold, then place between layers of cake and on top.

Lemon Filling.

The juice and grated rind of 1 lemon, 1 cupful of sugar, 1 egg and ½ tablespoonful of butter. Place in a basin over a brisk fire and let it cook till it thickens, stirring all the time to prevent burning. Spread between layers of cake when cool.

Boiled Frosting. (Without Eggs.)

Boil together 1 cupful of sugar and 1-3 cupful of sweet milk till the sugar is all melted, then beat till cold.

For a supper relish, Laura Golden sends this:

Ham and Tomatoes.

Shave some ham in very thin slices, throw into frying pan with a little butter and stir it, or turn it till it is brown and crisp. Put in the middle of a hot dish. Cut ½ doz. tomatoes across the middle and lay them in the pan. Brown them on both sides, and when cooked through place them on the dish around the ham. Pour 1 cupful of cream into the pan, let it boil up, then pour over the hams and tomatoes and serve as hot as possible. Canned tomatoes can be drained from all their juice and used in this way, but are not quite equal to fresh ones.

Washington Rancher sends the following rules for making the best of

Yeast Bread.

Pare two or three good-sized potatoes, slice and boil tender; then mash them in the water they were boiled in, add a tablespoonful sugar and teaspoonful of salt; soak a yeast cake in luke-warm water (or compressed yeast if you like) and add to the potatoes when they are cool enough not to scald the yeast. Set in a warm place to rise, then put it away in a cool place till needed. Use a teacupful of this for an ordinary baking. It can be used in an hour or two after making. Save a teacupful to put into the next new yeast, instead of the yeast cake, and make every time before baking bread. Or if you do not wish to make yeast so often use more potatoes and put in a tablespoonful or more of ginger, which helps it to keep.

A bread sponge should be beaten thoroughly when it is stirred up to give fineness to the bread. The dough should also be thoroughly kneaded, being careful not to mix in too much flour, as that makes the bread dry quickly.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

Have a Pleasant Chat and Listen to the Banner State's Report.

Four new members applied for admission this morning and were introduced as Beatrice, Judge, Frankie and Green Olive.

The old members present were: Shamrock, Bonny, Inda and Pauline.

Pauline, Wis., dropped in to tell Smith, Ill., that the word God does not occur in the "Song of Solomon."

Shamrock, Md., told an amusing story concerning the manner in which a fox catches yellow jackets. She said: "I will tell the story as it was told to me by a woodsman. The sly fox hunts their nest in the ground, digs them out, and gets them well-stirred up; then he puts his tail among them, and as they alight on it, he draws the brush through his mouth, and passes on to the next nest, keeping up the sport until his appetite is satisfied."

Didn't somebody say something awhile ago about snake stories? Miss Prudence thinks this "fox-tale" equals anything she has heard in that line.

Green Olive, Kan.:—"Now don't stop talking because I came in, for I don't feel a bit like a stranger, and would like to sit beside Em. T. Head, if you please, because she has been with you so long she must be "well acquainted."

The Indiana report is just received. The president expresses herself pleased with the new order of things concerning subjects for discussion. That for February will be announced next week.

Beatrice, Pa.:—Hoped all the members had as merrey a Christmas as she did.

Judge, Tenn.:—"In making his 'inaugural speech,' said various polite things about the M. G. R's. and about his teacher who is 'Make Haste,' and whose accounts of our 'jolly times' induced the Judge to join us. Describing his home in Kentucky, he says: "My home is situated among the blue mountains of southeast Kentucky, where the scenery is life-inspiring. Nature raises her head 1,300 feet above Gulf-level, and has many long and ugly noses; we call them cliffs. Among these mountains are found numerous wild animals, and snakes are found upon their slopes. I spent last Christmas with my teacher in Tennessee, where I am now going to school. I had a pleasant time, and find my home pro tem as enjoyable as the 'Old Kentucky Home.'"

Inda, Mich.:—"I come in to tell you how well pleased I am with the new order of things. I think the plan a good one, and am willing to put my shoulder to the new wheel, and help to make it go around. I did not join the M. G. R.'s simply to see my letters printed, but because I expected to derive good from it, in which, I am happy to say, I have been successful. The letters each week come like a ray of sunshine into my quiet home. No matter how stormy or cold the weather is, my paper never fails me. Besides trying to live up to our motto, I also 'try in all the ways I can, to get all the people I can to subscribe for the Weekly Blade, and have succeeded in sending five new subscribers."

Bravo, Inda! You take a practical way of expressing your interest in the Circle and its Chaperone.

Frankie, Kan.:—"What do you think of the Venezuelan question? At first, I thought we were doing foolishly to incur the enmity of the British, but on second thought I concluded that the matter stands this way: If we do not enforce the Monroe doctrine it will be to our own hurt. If the British are allowed to take the countries which are weak, their power will increase, and by and by they will take the stronger countries, republics or otherwise, among them, perhaps the United States itself! I, for one, though my father is a 'native Englishman,' do not wish to see this broad land of ours in the hands of a king. Then also, we are a nation and as a people, should strive to help a sister who is struggling for liberty. I hope it may be settled peaceably, but if we have to fight, the people of Kansas are ready, and will be true."

Bonny, Ind.:—"Ye M. G. R.'s if you will go with me to the hills in the eastern part of Green county you will find there a cavern, known as the Ridgeport cave. The entrance is upon the north slope of a deep ravine; I do not know that its actual length is known, but it is one continuous passage, traversed by a very small stream, and broken in three places by large stones which seem either to have fallen from the roof or to have been placed there by human agency.

Three friends and myself had a little adventure in trying to pass one of these piles of rock on my first visit to the cave. We were down on our hands and knees working our way through when one of them accidentally kicked the bottom off my lantera; 'then all was darkness'—with only two matches to procure a light!

The editor of one of our county papers, in company with other gentlemen, entered the cave at 8 o'clock a. m.—and emerged from Nature's darkness into the light of day at 4 o'clock p. m., having eaten a hearty dinner where no other man had ever been. He left a sample copy of his paper as a memento for those who might reach the goal after him and in memory of the event."

As was announced in a recent number of The Blade the reports from various states were to be compared, and the best published in this column. While every one of the reports was well worth being printed, the limited space allowed us, made it impossible to give but one, and that from the Wisconsin president was chosen, as it was the fullest of any, and on a subject of general interest. Will the circle, please salute Wisconsin as the Banner state for this month!

The report is as follows:

Subject: "Should the Cultivation of Flowers Be Encouraged?"

Forsaken:—"The cultivation of flowers should be encouraged for the pleasure they give us and those around us for their beauty, for their fragrance, and for their refining influence in the home circle. They gladden the hearts of the sick and discouraged, and are an inspiration to all that is good in thought and deed.

"To make home pleasant and attractive is a duty all parents owe to their children, and flowers are a means to this end.

"Our love and remembrance can be shown in no more tender manner to those who so bravely fought and died for their country than by continuing to cover their graves with flowers and by teaching the coming generation to ever do the same."

Mayflower:—"There is nothing more lovely than a well-cared-for garden of flowers, and no effort will afford us richer returns for the time expended than their cultivation. They are nature's gifts to us to make us better and happier; they add grace and beauty to our cheer and surroundings and cheer and brighten life as nothing else can."

Crystal: "First, the remedial benefits derived from floriculture. Scientists claim that growing plants are necessary to vitality; that they fit the earth for the abode of man by setting free the oxygen required for his life.

"Second, the refining influence of flowers. There is nothing that gives a greater charm to a home and its surroundings than flowers, and their presence on lawn, or in window are an indication of refinement. They are silent but faithful teachers of all that is good and true, and to many they have proven an incentive to a better and purer life."

Forest Maiden:—"There are many reasons why the cultivation of flowers should be encouraged. They are messages of love; tokens of remembrance, charming gifts; they add to our homes a beauty and brightness unsurpassed. No more appropriate present can be given an invalid than a bouquet of choice flowers, such gifts are twice blessed—making happy the donor as well as the recipient."

Lonely:—"We certainly should encourage the cultivation of flowers, for, 'They sweeten the air, rejoice the eye and link one with Nature and innocence.' Besides they are something to love; they take one's soul nearer to God and increase happiness. Who can look at flowers and not think of Heaven?"

The man who foolishly does me wrong, I will return him the protection of my ungrudging love; the more the evil that comes from him, the more the good that shall go from me.

Ever Young.

The desirableness of keeping young rarely crosses the mind of those who are now young. They see others about them who have lost their bloom, embroidered their first wrinkles, enowed themselves under with white hair; but they have always been surrounded with people older than themselves; it is a part of life, a feature of the world, for these others to be old; but for their part, they have always been young. And in some unexpressed way, probably the natural feeling of the immortal being, they always expect to be young. Whether their expectation is realized depends almost altogether upon themselves. They think no more about it, however, till the first gray hair comes like an admonishing ghost upon the scene. At seventeen, they were of the opinion that the first thing in the world was beauty. But at thirty-five they find it is better to be young than to be beautiful. And it very often happens that the girl who was beautiful, with vivid color and sparkling eyes and fruit of flesh and dimples, when not quite twenty, finds herself at forty with none of these, and neither young nor beautiful. Yet if she were really fine and fair at twenty, then at forty she has a right to be fine and fair still; she should hardly have gone off at all. It matters far less than you can make her now believe that her eyes may be sunken a little, that the line from the nostril to the corner of the lip may have become marked, that the color may be less persistent, that the dimple may show symptoms of becoming something deeper; under certain conditions all that is hardly noticeable. If she has kept the spring that used to animate every motion, so that she moves now with as light a step, as erect a bearing, with as quick a grace, holds her head still like a flower atop of its stem, straight and strong, yet without the least affectation of juvenile frolicking ways, she will give only the suggestion of youth whenever she stirs. If she goes slow and lagging, with a stoop and signs of weariness, she will have an arm offered her, and it will be understood that she bears a weight of years and needs it. If she dresses still in the tints and effects that suit her best, not with youthful frivolities, but with no sign of surrender to age, she will have the effect of still belonging to the forces whose uniform she wears. But if she wears sad and dull colors, relinquishing with reluctance last year's styles, and with but little regard to styles anyway, she will be taken at her own valuation. More still, and of more value than the other considerations, if she still interests herself in the things that interest youth, has saved herself from the criticising and condemnatory manner which years sometimes give to one's view of life, so that the young still find her companionable, she not only affects others as being young, but feels at fifty scarcely a day older than ever. If meanwhile she has taken also to heart a practice of seeing only the brighter side of things, of forgetting herself and remembering others, of looking to the next life as into a further stage of the delights of this, if she has filled her life and her soul with pity and compassion and tenderness, with love of God and of her fellow-beings, age, even when it brings white hair and withered throat and dropping cheek, will seem not to have any trail of eld, but rather to be a different and beautiful youth.—Harper's Bazar.

Six Things a Boy Ought to Know.

1. That a quiet voice, courtesy and kind acts are as essential to the part in the world of a gentleman as of a gentlewoman.

2. That roughness, blustering and even foolhardiness are not manliness. The most firm and courageous men have usually been the most gentle.

3. That muscular strength is not health.

4. That a brain crammed only with facts is not necessarily a wise one.

5. That the labor impossible to the boy of fourteen will be easy to the man of twenty.

6. The best capital for a boy is not money, but the love of work, simple tastes and a heart loyal to his friends and his God.—Good Housekeeping.

Never was a sincere word lost. Never a magnanimity fell to the ground but there is some heart to greet and accept it unexpectedly.—Emerson.

The Importance of Good Manners.

Edward Everett, who commanded so much respect in England, not only for his great learning and talents, but for the elegance of his manners, was once asked by an American, how he had so mastered the detail of European etiquette. His answer was a significant one:

"I have never considered any subject which other people respect as unworthy of intense observation. I pride myself on the manner even in which I tie up a brown paper parcel. I study the etiquette of every country."

Our republicanism will become more genuine when it realizes that a proper attention to etiquette is at once elegant, simple, proper, and dignified, and that it should extend over our country from the extremest limits of civilization to the great cities and the little villages. It need not be observance of old world ceremonials, although we should learn enough of them not to offend if we visit a monarch on his own ground; but it should be that becoming courtesy, which will at home and abroad ornament and improve a society which has already so much to commend it and which may have the most splendid future.

The best American girl is interested everywhere in the best way of doing everything. A girl with self-respect is always willing to learn. The truly well-bred girls of America, with charming manners expressive of a good heart, a careful education, and a proper desire to please—and their name is legion—should not be injured even in that large general classification "American" by the bad-manners of a few; yet they have to suffer for the ill-bred. American girls have no excuse for not being the best-bred girls in the world, for they are remarkably clever. We must permit ourselves the national vanity of claiming that the native purity, quick intelligence, apprehension of the necessities of a new position, and in some instances the intuitions of elegance, are, in our young countrywomen, quite miraculous, as contrasted with the slower mind of the German, for instance.

The wife of an American minister at Berlin had occasion to notice this difference. "A young German countess," said she, "will arrive at Berlin from her secluded chateau, and she will be introduced at court, with all the honors. She will be awkward, embarrassed, gauche, for the whole winter. A young American girl will be introduced, fresh from some Western city, or some New England town, and she will be at her ease and mistress of etiquette in a month. She will charm everybody by her wit, her repartee, and her cleverness."

OUR LITTLE ECHO.

We have an echo in our house,
An echo three years old,
With dimpled cheeks and wistful eyes,
And hair of sunny gold.

This little echo, soft and sweet,
Repeats what others say,
And trots about on tireless feet,
Up stairs and down all day.

It makes us very careful not
To use a naughty word,
Lest in the echo's lisping tones
It should again be heard.

Which would be such a dreadful thing,
As any one may see,
Who has an echo in his house
A little over three.

—Margaret Sangster, in Little Knights and Ladies.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

GIVEN BY THE MERRY YOUNG FOLKS OF THE BLADE.

The School Mistress Tells the Story for All to Read—An Interesting Recital.

CONCLUDED.

Elsme Roy favored the following friends: To Wild Ivy and Mamie he gave gold watches; to Hazel Thornton Webster's International Dictionary; to Coralyn a gold pen, and to Cleo Davis, a bound volume of The Century.

Lillie presented Mamma's Pet with a beautiful doll; gave Etna an album, and J. a silver spectacle case.

Hazel Thornton gave Lone Fisherman some new tackle; to Dick Tobin a volume of (her?) poems, and to Madge a large basket full of delicious fruit.

Forsaken gave Nana an oil painting outfit; to Yours Truly he gave "Poetry of Flowers," and to Mayflower "Little Women."

Inda gave Wessel a handsome morocco bound album containing the giver's photograph; to Winona she gave an equally handsome Bible.

W. P. E. received a gold pen from Alta; an easy chair from the Schoolmistress; Macauley's England from Miss Prudence, and a gold-headed cane from Terence.

The Iowa state president received a bunch of forget-me-nots from Florence, with a promise to write on every subject given out this year.

Wilford gave to Hazel Thornton a small brass cannon, particularly calculated for "firing" M. G. R. boys; and to W. Va. Grey Eyes, a gold chain called "Friendship," with the hope that it might continually grow longer and never lose a link.

Prairie Flower gave to Queen Mab a chair made by the Indians from the horns of different animals; and to

Ferne Hazleton a pink silk handkerchief sachet containing a dozen cambric pocket handkerchiefs.

Tessy gave Christmas cards to every one, and Miss Prudence and the Schoolmistress gave each one of their guests a box of candy and a souvenir spoon, having represented in the bowl a Merry-Go-Round in full running order, and on the handle a curiously intertwined monogram of M. G. R. and O. W. C. spelled out. On the back was engraved "Christmas, '95."

Thistle was the most prolific giver, sending a list of 100 presents written in rhyme, which was such a curiosity in its way (though in some parts of it reason has been sacrificed to rhyme in a painful manner) that it was read out to the company when the tree had been despoiled of its fruit, and the young people were "getting their breath" before starting out anew.

MISS PRUDENCE'S TREE.

"Upon Miss Prudence's Christmas Tree
Her friends will all these presents see;
To Miss Prudence, I send a rocking chair;

To the school mistress, a dress to wear;
Poor Richard I send a pair of skates;
To Maud, a set of dinner plates;
To E. Flower, a wonderful book;
Pond Lily, I send a crochet hook;
To Sam Igotus, a looking glass,
Melissa I send a crock of sass;
El. S. Worth I send a milking pail;
Lisa I send a winter veil;
To Squib I send a dozen pens;
Ethel, I'll send a couple of hens;
Gipsy Davy, some paper shoes;
To Bessie Bright, a shoe and lot;
To Doctor, a pair of driving gloves;
To Peggy Short, two turtle doves;
Michigander must have a bran new sled;
Maida, I send a spool of thread;
To Venus, I send some kindling wood;
Peach Blossom shall have an opera hood;
Dakota Bachelor, a dozen almanacs;
Golden Rod, a box of carpet tacks;
Clio she'll have a fine watch-spring;
Sweet Marie, a napkin ring;
W. Owen, a plate of bacon;
Little Eva, five cents in cash;
Anadarkka, a concealed key;
Freda Fern, a cup of tea;
Buckeye, a hat that is a dandy,
Laurel, a pound of lemon candy;
Kirt shall have a box of bees;
Wild Rosemary, an ever-blooming rose;
Sten I will give a shaving set;
Isabel, a lambrequin will get;
Pathfinder I'll give an old-fashioned copper;
Olive Delight, a 'hoss' corn-popper;
Leon shall have a pair of spectacles;
Egyptian Friend, two letter receptacles;
Dusey, I'll send a winter shirt,
Cara Mia, a bicycle skirt;
Red Cloud, a box of chestnut burrs;
Wild Fern shall have a set of furs;
Our State President, a gold-headed cane,
Zelda a lovely watch and chain;
Montana a lovely watch and chain;
Montana Hash, an ice-cream freezer;
Rosamond, a lemon squeezer;
Zach Stubbs, a blue wax taper;
Mildred Helene, some writing paper;
Mountaineer, salt and pepper basket;
Nellie Jones, a jewel case;
Poet shall have a paper holder;
Chrysanthemum, a magazine folder;
Shamrock I'll give our national flag;
Trailing Arbutus, a shopping bag;
Paul shall have a pencil and slate;
Prairie Flower, a stencil plate;
Jal J. shall receive a fine gas burner;
Theresa Thorne, a pancake turner;
Tid Tempo I'll give a pound of shot;
To Winona I'll offer a coffee pot;
Sirayo shall have a box of collars;
Lois, I'll give two silver dollars;
Kirt shall receive a string of fish;
Jet Darling must have this butter dish;
To Terence I send an overcoat;
For Lillie, there is a silver boat;
To Student I send a student's lamp;
To Yellow Aster, a postage stamp;
Red Bird I send a p

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

THE WRECKED FILIBUSTER.

Cubans Suspect That the Hawkins Was Scuttled.

New York, Jan. 29.—An air of gloom pervaded the headquarters of the Cuban revolutionary party in this city to-day, and the leaders, who would not admit last night that there had been any filibustering expedition which had met with disaster, freely admitted that the story of the wreck of the steamer J. W. Hawkins was correct.

T. E. Palma, who is the acknowledged head of the Cuban revolutionary party in New York, said that the story was undoubtedly true, but he claimed that the amount of money expended in the expedition had been exaggerated and that only about $100,000 had been expended in fitting out the steamer J. W. Hawkins, including arms and ammunition. "That is," said Mr. Palma, "always presuming that such an expedition was fitted out. I wish you would say for me through the Associated Press, that I am placed in a very delicate position in regard to this whole matter. Otherwise I would not hesitate to tell all I know about it for I believe that we have the sympathy of the United States with us, but that it would not be President Cleveland's policy to aid us in any way. The Spanish government in its present state would not hesitate at any means to place us in a bad light with the United States and anything I might say concerning this alleged filibustering scheme might be distorted to our detriment."

One of the Cuban leaders made the startling announcement that it was evident there had been treachery in the camp of the filibustering party. "You see," said he, "we hired an expert in this city to go to Baltimore to examine the steamer J. W. Hawkins before we purchased her. This expert reported that the steamer was seaworthy. Now either the expert did not do his duty properly and the steamer was not fit to go to sea or else there was a traitor on board who deliberately scuttled the ship. The latter would seem to be the case. Neither Gen. Garcia, who was in command of the expedition, nor his son, who was second in command, nor any of the others at the head of the movement had any idea whatever that the steamer was leaking until it was too late to save her. After leaving this city on Saturday night all went well, apparently, until Sunday night, when one of the filibusterers happening to go down to the engine room saw the water rushing in. He at once notified Gen. Garcia and some of the party were set to work to assist the crew at the pumps, but it was too late. A most searching investigation is being made, and if there was any plot to scuttle the ship, we will unearth it."

MCKINLEY'S CHANCES.

Mark Hanna's Survey of the Presidential Field.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 3.—Ex-Governor McKinley was in the city yesterday and spent a few hours at the home of Hon. M. A. Hanna, on Lake avenue. Mr. Hanna returned yesterday morning from a trip to Chicago and Milwaukee. Major McKinley returned on an afternoon train to Canton.

According to Mr. Hanna's survey of the field in Illinois, McKinley is the first choice of the Republicans of that state for President. He had some interesting things to say about the boomlet of Senator Cullom and the Springfield love feast in an interview late yesterday afternoon. "From my observation, the sentiment among the majority of Republicans in Illinois is for McKinley as first choice."

"I saw many people who attended the Springfield love feast, and learned that the manifestation in McKinley's favor was an evidence of the strong hold he has upon the Republicans of the state. The fact was even admitted by those who favored other candidates that the results of that demonstration clearly proved the sentiment was overwhelmingly in favor of McKinley."

"How about Wisconsin?"

"I was at Milwaukee to attend to some business matters," he replied, "and during my stay I met many prominent Republicans, who are leaders of the party, and found that there was no mistake about the McKinley strength in that state."

"How do you size up the situation in Louisiana?"

"From my information McKinley will have ten delegates out of sixteen. As everybody knows the situation in Louisiana is somewhat complicated, but that is the result I obtain from the best advices I can get."

Mr. Hanna said that he was in favor of having the Ohio state convention held some time before the middle of March. "In many of the states the conventions are being held this year earlier than ever," said he, "and Ohio should be among the first."

INTO THE CELLAR.

Parlor Floor Gave Way at a Wedding in Ohio.

Sandusky, O., Jan. 30.—A distressing accident occurred late yesterday afternoon at the residence of Albert N. Baker in Perkins township, this county. About 150 guests had gathered there to witness the marriage of Mr. Baker's daughter, Nellie Olive, and Mr. William J. Beutel, a prominent hardware dealer on the West Side in Cleveland. The ceremony having been performed, the guests crowded about the bride and groom to offer congratulations, when with a terrific crash the floor of the spacious parlor succumbed to the unusual weight, and about 75 people, including the bride and groom, were precipitated ten feet into the cellar. A large coal oil lamp on a stand and three lighted candles that were standing on the mantel went down with the people. The lamp fortunately went out, but the candles set fire to the clothing of some of the ladies and added a new horror to the accident.

The flames were speedily extinguished, however, and nobody was seriously injured by fire, although some dresses were ruined thereby. Women screamed and fainted, and men stood powerless to lend a helping hand. Some of the more coolheaded among the men succeeded in pushing their way through the crowd to the gaping hole in the floor and began extricating the struggling people who were hanging suspended from broken timbers, while others with axes chopped away the outer windows of the cellar and thus reached those who had fallen to the cellar floor. People were piled up on one another six and eight deep, all struggling to free themselves from either human entanglement or debris.

When all were released it was found that Mrs. H. N. Norton, of Perkins township, was probably fatally injured internally. William Arnold, of Milan, was cut about the head and injured internally; William Starr, of Detroit, received a bad scalp wound, and was otherwise injured, while several were more or less cut and bruised, none seriously, however.

A SHARP BURGLAR.

Got a Tip on a Rich Haul While at Prayer Meeting.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 29.—A special to the Bee from Wellfleet, Neb., says:

Mrs. Jane Houston, the bank president's wife, lost diamonds and other jewelry valued at $50,000. Mart Green, whom the authorities were shadowing as a dangerous suspect, dropped into the Free Methodist revival meeting last night just in time to hear Mrs. Houston explaining in giving her experience" that she had just discared her diamonds and other jewelry, since she thought it ungodly to wear them. She said she left all of her finery on her dresser, when she left her house for church. Green left the church, broke into the Houston residence and found that she had told the truth. He took everything in sight and left a note saying he was glad he could remove temptation from the good woman.

Will Have Two Conventions.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 30.—A special to the Bee from Lincoln, Neb., says:

The Republican state central committee has practically decided to call two state conventions, the first for the election of delegates to the national convention at St. Louis, the last for the nomination of state officers. Thursday, April 30, is the day most favorably mentioned by the members of the committee for the delegate convention.

THE CATHODE LIGHT,

Which Penetrates Very Many Opaque Bodies.

New York, Jan. 31.—Prof. A. W. Wright who occupies the chair of experimental physics at Yale University and is in charge of the Sloan physical labratory has, according to the Evening Post's New Haven correspondence, made successful experiments recently in photographing objects behind opaque bodies by the agency of cathode rays, in which Prof. W. C. Roentgen of Germany has been reported to have achieved remarkable results.

Prof. Wright used in his experiments a tube in which the exhaustion is carried to so high a point that the tension of the gas left in the tube is measured by a few millionths ordinary atmospheric pressure—the so-called Crookes tube—and connected to the poles of an induction coil in action. The discharge from the negative electrode of such a tube gives the cathode rays which it must be emphasized, are almost non illuminous. Prof. Wright's experiments were made with a great variety of substances, and it was found that strong impressions were obtained upon a photographic plate, even when it was enclosed in an opaque wrapping of black paper and covered with a pine board half an inch thick. It was evident at the outset that the order of transparency of subjects for the lights rays was very different from that which is found with the cathode rays. Thus pieces of glass were more opaque to these rays than some metals or from ebonite which is perfectly opaque to luminous rays, but transmits the cathode rays with great freedom. Among them aluminum is especially distinguished and in one of the experiments of Prof. Wright an aluminum medal left its impress on the plate so clearly as to show both the design and lettering. In this latter case the layer between the medal and the sensitive plate was absolute opaque ebonite.

In other experiments which were made by Prof. Wright with pine board interposed, a closed paper box containing aluminum grain weights left a trace upon the plate which appeared as though the box was almost transparent and the weights themselves somewhat translucent. An ordinary lead pencil lying near the box upon the interposed box showed its graphite core by a darker trace in the middle of the fainter impress of the wood of the pencil. Another paper box containing embedded in cotton three small spheres one of aluminum, one brass and another of platinum. The case appeared similary transparent so as to leave but a light impression on the plate. The brass and the platinum spheres intercepted a large portion of the cathode rays, the aluminum sphere a much smaller proportion. A number of American coins—silver and nickel—produced strong impressions.

IT IS INVALID.

The Legislative Apportionment of 1895 and 1893.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 30.—The supreme court this afternoon declared invalid the legislative apportionment of 1895, passed by Republicans. The case came up form Sullivan county, and involved the apportionment act also of 1893, passed by Democrats. This also goes down as unconstitutional. By a former decision the apportionments of 1891 and 1879 were found invalid. To-day's decision makes it necessary to go back to the act of 1885, which is the last apportionment act passed that has not been successfully attacked. The decision suggests that a special session of the legislature might be called to remedy the situation which has become chaotic by today's decision. The legislature is Republican, and Governor Matthews has said that he would not call it together. The act of 1885 now found to be in force was passed by a Democratic legislature. The Republicans will probably file a suit attacking it. The hold-over Senators elected under the law of 1895 are not disturbed by the decision. There are three opinions, one of which is a quasi dissent.

PELICAN STATE REPUBLICANS.

Louisiana Delegates Are for the Strongest Man.

New Orleans, Feb. 1.—Mr. James Wilkinson, brother of Collector Wilkinson, Republican nominee for district judge, in an interview with an Associated Press reporter, concerning the action of the Republican convention, and the political outlook as far as this state is concerned, said: "The Kellogg or Reed victory seems a rather barren one. The Republicans convened, refused, or failed to pass the resolution endorsing Reed, offered by H. Dudley Coleman, and two of the four delegates elected, Vance and Bemas, were two days ago strong McKinley shouters. They are very numerous now. I do not believe anybody can tell who the Louisiana delegation will support at St. Louis. I do not think the delegates themselves know, but my impression is they will go for the strongest man.

"The Rhare or fusion state ticket nominated by both Republican organizations and the Populists, I consider a very strong one. The Populists polled 15,000 votes for Tanuchill in 1892, and over half their number supported Foster, Democrat."

RECOILED ON THE HOTEL.

Preachers Taboo the One That Insulted Bishop Arnett.

Boston, Feb. 1.—The incident of the refusal of three leading Boston hotels to entertain Bishop Arnett, of Wilberforce, O., because of his color, had a sequel yesterday in the announcement of Rev. Samuel M. Crothers, university preacher of Harvard college, who was to address the South Middlesex Unitarian club on "True Americanism" at its next meeting, that he declines to speak on the subject if the meeting of the club is held at a hotel in which the color line is drawn. This declination is prompted by the fact that one of the hotels at which Bishop Arnett was refused accommodation is the usual meeting place of the club. Mr. Crothers has made known his sentiments to President A. M. Howe, of the club, in a letter in which he states his belief that discussion of true Americanism under such circumstances would be inconsistency so apparent as to be almost grotesque.

Mr. Howe, in a lengthy letter, replying to Mr. Crothers's sentiments, declares that he agrees with the clergyman in the position and that he will certainly take a similar course himself with regard to the meeting place of the club.

BOILER EXPLOSION.

A Plant Wrecked and a Score Badly Injured.

Hollidaysburg, Pa., Jan. 30.—Five persons were killed and nearly a score injured, some of them fatally, by the explosion of the large 30-inch cylinder boiler at the works of the Hollidaysburg Iron and Nail Company this morning. Five were killed or injured.

The boiler was blown through the roof of the works, 300 feet in mid-air and came sailing down like a spent rocket crushing through the roof in another department of the works. The entire roof was precipitated to the floor below by the force of the explosion and the works were practically wrecked. The explosion was sufficient to rock the earth with the force of an earthquake near the works and broke hundreds of window panes at a quarter of a mile from the mill.

DEMPSEY PARDONED.

Caused Poison to Be Given to Non-Union Men.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 30.—There was great rejoicing among the labor leaders to-day over the news that the state pardon board had recommended the pardon of Hugh Dempsey, ex-district master workman of the Knights of Labor, who was three years ago sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in the Riverside penitentiary for felonious assault and battery in causing poison to be administered to the non-union men at Houston's rolling mill, of the Carnegie Steel company, after the great strike of 1892. Beatty and Gallagher, who were convicted at the same time for complicity in the poisoning are still in prison. It is probable a demonstration will be arranged by the labor unions in celebration of Dempsey's release.

WIRE NAILS.

Jobbers Notified of an Advance of Fifteen Cents.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 3.—The Wire Nail Manufacturers' Association has addressed a circular letter to the jobbing trade giving notice of another advance in prices of 15 cents per hundredweight. This will change the base rate from $2.25 to $2.40 per hundredweight, which is the highest price asked for wire nails in many years. Only a year or so ago the base price was 85 cents.

FLOODS IN THE SOUTH.

Rain Has Swollen Streams and Flooded the Lowlands.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 3.—The unprecedented rains in the lower Mississippi valley during the past ten days has caused all streams to overflow and the lowlands in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi are one vast sea of water. Bridges have been washed away on several of the railroads and traffic is seriously delayed. In Arkansas the damage from the flood will reach high figures. The Ouachita river rose thirty feet within 36 hours and the torrent of waters swept everything before it. Many fine plantations and farms in that fertile valley have been submerged and outhouses and fences swept away. Rain has been falling almost steadily during the past 48 hours, and the water will go still higher.

Children Drowned.

Canton, Miss., Feb. 3.—Rains in the past 48 hours have caused the most destructive overflow known in this section for twenty years. The entire western portion of the city is inundated to a depth of two to four feet. The Illinois Central road is submerged, and many bridges destroyed.

News was received here this morning of the drowning of an entire family of children on the Reid place, four miles from Canton, the parents having gone to a festival, and the dwelling being flooded before their return.

A Swollen River.

Navasota, Tex., Feb. 3.—The Brazos river is still rising, being six inches over the Santa Fe track for six miles near Allen farm. The two rivers have united between Navasota and Allen's farm, making a stream twelve miles wide.

Rained Thirty Hours.

Port Gibson, Miss., Feb. 3.—Rain fell here for thirty hours continuously, beginning Friday night. The government gauge shows a fall of 7 1-3 inches. All streams are overflowed and bridges destroyed or badly damaged.

Dave Barnes, colored, was drowned by the upsetting of a dug-out, in which he was attempting to cross an overflowed field.

No Trains Running.

Vicksburg, Miss., Feb. 3.—No trains arrived yesterday over the Alabama & Vicksburg railroad from Meridian, owing to the washouts, nor any from New Orleans over the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley. Floods and rains are reported everywhere.

SANTA FE UNDER WATER.

Brazos River is Splashing Out of Its Territory.

Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 3.—The Brazos river is still rising at Columbia. It rose 15 feet in 20 hours and its current is equal to that of a mountain stream. Several vessels belonging to the Columbia Transportation Company were swept away. The river is not out of its banks and is sweeping over the surrounding country. Near Navasola the Brazos and Navasola rivers are joined and are twelve miles wide. The Santa Fe track is submerged.

TWO HUNDRED MILLIONS.

Price of Philadelphia's Big Sunday Blaze.

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—A disastrous fire broke out early yesterday morning in the Hazeltine building on Chestnut street and entirely destroyed that structure and the adjoining building of the American Baptist Publication Society. The Lafayette hotel was also badly damaged. No lives were lost but several persons were injured.

The buildings damaged by fire and water and falling walls were the four-story dry goods house of Homer Le Boutillier & Co., Nos. 1412 and 1414, the dwelling house at 1422 Chestnut street, owned by the Wistar estate, and the hotel Lafayette, at Broad and Samson streets. On each side of the main entrance to the Hazeltine building were the piano warerooms of Hallet & Davis, at 1416 and of Steinway & Co., at 1418. The two Baptist societies lost large and valuable collections of paintings, books and curios. The detailed losses have not yet been made up, but conservative estimates place the aggregate at close to two million dollars. It is thought that this is almost fully covered by insurance.

There were about 250 guests in the Lafayette hotel, which is in the rear of the destroyed buildings.

The Hazeltine building was valued at $700,000 and was fully insured. It was erected in 1888 and the first two floors were fire proof. The loss on paintings on the second floor is between $300,000 and $400,000, uninsured. Among those destroyed were two by G. H. Selous, valued at $30,000 each, one by Roberts-Fleury, valued at $10,000. There were 39 offices in the building, occupied mainly by artists, lawyers and dentists. Drs. Edwards and Currey, and the third floor, lost a collection of South American curios valued at $10,000, partly insured. Other tenants lost sums ranging from $50 to $1,000.

The valuable stock of pianos in the stores on the first floor was destroyed, but the amount of this loss has not yet been estimated.

The Baptist publication building and stock were valued at $400,000, insured.

The Historical Society lost ten thousand volumes valued at $200,000 and insured for $25,000.

Dr. Wayland, the eminent divine, lost a valuable private library on which there was no insurance and Dr. D. T. St. Elmoyer lost $4,000. The losses on the Homer Le Boutillier and Lafayette hotel buildings have not yet been approximated.

THEY WANT THEM.

Shabby Looking Farmers Subscribed for Bonds.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 1.—An old farmer who looked like a grasshopper sufferer, roughly dressed and unkempt, entered one of the banks yesterday and caled for the government bond subscription list. He looked it carefully over, and then scrawled his name down for $1,000 at 110, and pulling a bag from his pocket deposited the gold coin on the counter. The subscription closed last night, and will be forwarded to-day. The total amount is about $400,000, and among the subscribers are a number of farmers and gardeners.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness, without debilitating the organs on which it acts. All important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health and the system is regular, then laxatives or other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative then one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

OHIO BOODLERS.

The Grand Jury Has Indicted Ex-Senators Iden and Abbott.

Columbus, O., Feb. 3.—The grand jury made its second partial report Saturday afternoon. Ex-Senator Wm. G. Gear, of Upper Sandusky, was indicted for soliciting a bribe of $200 from Hon. Charles

EX-SENATOR GEAR.

Flumerfelt, of Seneca county, during the pending of a bill to reimburse Flumerfelt for his expenses as contestee for his seat in the House two years ago. The bill was hung up in the Senate finance committee, of which Gear was a member, for over two months.

Ex-Senator George Iden, of Newark, was indicted for offering a bribe of $50

EX-SENATOR IDEN.

to the clerk of the House to call the roll out of its order on the pendency of a bill to locate a permenent O. N. G. encampment grounds at Newark.

Ex-Senator John Q. Abbott, of McConnellsville, is indicted for soliciting a bribe in connection with a bill pending to amend the supremacy laws.

A PACIFIC COAST TRUST.

Central Lumber Co. of California Formed.

Port Townsend, Wash., Feb. 3.—The largest trust ever formed on the Pacific Coast, and representing a capital of over $70,000,000, has been consummated and went into effect last night. It is the Central Lumber Co., of California, and its membership includes every lumber mill, all ship owners, wholesale and retail dealers of the western coast of the United States and British Columbia. All charters of vessels and sales of lumber must be effected through the Central Lumber company, which regulates freights and puts the buying and selling price on all lumber, regulating also the product of each mill and the proportionate amount of lumber each vessel shall carry during the year. Not only are the markets of the Pacific coast thus controlled, but the lumber shipments to foreign countries are placed under the same restriction. Every mile on the coast has its product regulated. In Puget Sound the daily output is 1,400,000 feet. In the same proportion every other lumber mill on the coast is regulated, but the regulations do not apply to shipments by rail to Eastern points.

The first order issued by the company was to advance the price of lumber $2 per thousand. Last year the estimated product of the coast was 600,000,000 feet, and this advance will enhance the profits of mill owners the year over $1,000,000.

The deal was made to include manufacturers, dealers and freight carriers. Members of the trust claim they have been manufacturing lumber for several years at actual cost, and that the dealers in foreign and coastwise markets were reaping all the profits. Under the new price, they say, the employes will be paid better wages and the timber men receive higher profits for their logs. Although capitalized at $10,000,000, no other corporation on the Pacific coast controls such vast interests. More than 150 ocean sailing vessels come under their control.

BURNED AT SEA.

Story of Hardship Experienced by the Parthia's Crew.

Port Townsend, Wash., Feb. 3.—The ship Louis Walsh, from Callao, brought two of the crew, steward Chase and cook Mitchell, from the ship Parthia, which was burned at sea several weeks ago, 300 miles southwest of Juan Fernandez Island. The Parthia was coal laden from Liverpool for San Francisco. The first intimation that the ship was on fire was when a dense volume of smoke burst through the main hatch. Knowing the coal was full of gas, and apprehensive lest an explosion should occur, three boats in charge of Capt. Carter and his first and second mates, respectively, were launched and well provisioned. The same afternoon when the boats were three miles distant, the ship blew up and sank. Spontaneous combusion was the origin of the fire. Four days the three boats remained together, when a storm came on, and the second mate's boat was lost sight of. The water filled the boats, and all the crew could do was to keep them bailed out. Then it was necessary to throw overboard all the men's clothes and nearly all the provisions. The captain and first officer's boats reached Juan Fernandez island, and from there they were taken to Valparaiso by a Chilean man-of-war. The second mate's boat had a severe time, and was fourteen days reaching Valparaiso. For six days they were without water and food. David Jones, an American actor, who was a passenger, became insane, and was tied down for two days. The other occupants almost despaired of reaching shore, and were considering the advisability of resorting to extreme measures, when a wind sprang up and quickly carried the boat to Valparaiso, where the crew was taken ashore unconscious and nearly dead.

MUST PAY THE PENALTY.

Dr. Duestrow Guilty of Murdering His Wife and Babe.

Union, Mo., Feb. 3.—The celebrated case of Dr. Arthur Duestrow, the St. Louis millionaire, who has been on trial during the past month for the cold-blooded murder of his wife and baby two years ago ended to-day, the jury returning a verdict of guilty in the first degree.

The terrible crime with which he is charged was committed in February, 1894. One day that month his wife and child were at home awaiting his coming to take a drive. When he came into the house, Duestrow, who was drunk, began to abuse his wife and finally shot her down in cold blood. He then picked up his 3-year-old boy, a beautiful child, and, holding it at arm's length, killed it with a pistol shot through the head. His wife lingered for several days and finally died.

When the result of the jury's deliberations were made known Duestrow's counsel stated that an appeal to the supreme court would be made.

JOSEPH COOK VERY LOW.

Is Nearly Blind From Acute Nervous Prostration.

Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 3.—Joseph Cook, of Boston, who recently returned from Australia and Japan is at the sanitarium, Clifton Springs, suffering from an acute form of nervous prostration. He is nearly blind owing to a weakness of the optic nerve. He will be taken to his cottage at Lake George early in the spring where it is hoped he will recover.

FOREIGN.

SALISBURY'S SPEECH.

Stated That He is an Advocate of the Monroe Doctrine.

London, Feb. 1.—The banquet of the non-Conformist Unionist Association at the Hotel Metropole last night was the occasion for an address by the Marquis of Salisbury, prime minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs.

In the course of his remarks he said with reference to Venezuela:

"I have been held up as the denouncer of the Monroe doctrine. As a matter of fact, although the Monroe doctrine is no part of international law, my dispatch to Mr. Olney, the secretary of state of the United States, supported it, as a rule of policy in the strongest and most distinct terms.

"But while I stated in that dispatch and reiterate now that we are the entire advocates of the Monroe doctrine, we mean the Monroe doctrine as President Monroe understood it. (Cheers). In that sense you will not find any more convinced supporters than we are."

Lord Salisbury then turned abruptly to the Armenian question, and he reproached the religious communities with laboring under a mistake when they supposed that England had bound herself in honor to succor the Armenians, which means to go to war with the sultan in order to force him to govern the Armenians well. The Berlin treaty, Lord Salisbury said, merely bound the signatory powers, that if the sultan promulgated certain reforms they would watch over the execution of those reforms. Nothing more. He did not think any one could interpret that as an undertaking to go to war.

The speaker reminded his hearers that reforms which the sultan had recently accepted, although very good reforms, could not be expected to produce good government in two months.

"They require time to work out," the speaker went on to say; "they would require time in a civilized community and much more so in a savage and fanatic community. I hope they will have a beneficent effect as time progresses."

If you ask why we have not interfered I can only answer for England that we could have threatened what I may call annoyance in the seizing of customs here and there, but when you are dealing with the rising of a whole fanatical population against a population with whom they have been at bitter enmity for ages, and who are situated in mountains far removed from the seashore, you are deceiving yourselves if you imagine that England's arm, long as it is, could have done anything in mitigation. Nothing but a military usurpation could have done it, and England does not possess the power of military usurpation at that distance.

"Mr. Gladstone wrote a letter that England could cope with five or six sultans. That was a most ill-judged and rash observation. If the sultan would meet us in the open, undoubtedly we could cope with five or six sultans. But it is not worth arguing the possibility of England occupying these inaccessible provinces.

"I am bound to answer the question why Europe did not interfere. I say confidently that none of the powers wished to interfere and I believe their view is, that with patience the sultan's prestige, which is the only power left in the country, will ultimately re-establish order and allow industry and commerce to take their usual secure course. That is their view and it is our duty to give the sultan time.

"If you do not act with the great powers, you must act against them, and produce calamities far more awful and terrible than the Armenian atrocities."

In conclusion, Lord Salisbury referred to the recent patriotic demonstrations in the colonies in face of the threatened complications and said: "I care not how much we are isolated if we are united. An example has been set which will shed a beneficent light on the later generations of Englishmen."

Lord Salisbury's address was greeted with loud and prolonged cheers.

UNCLE SAM DREW BACK

When He Found Russia Was Protecting Turkey.

London, Feb. 3.—A dispatch to the St. James Gazette to-day from Washington says that the correspondent of that paper has the highest authority for announcing that the entente between Russia and Turkey is known at the state department, and that it has had a most important effect in modifying the plan the administration had prepared to compel Turkey to pay an indemnity for the damage done to American property in Armenia. Continuing, the corespondent says that in spite of denials he is able to assure the readers of his paper that a naval demonstration upon the part of the war ships of the United States was prepared and that a cabinet meeting approved the policy of bringing pressure to bear upon Turkey. He also says that Secretary Olney entered into communication with Russia and Great Britain, asking them if they would oppose action of the United States against Turkey. Great Britain's reply, he says, was favorable, but, he adds, Russia informed Mr. Olney that she preferred there should be no naval demonstration at that time as Russia was negotiating to bring about a restoration of order in Turkey which country, Mr. Le De Kotzebue, Russian minister to the United States, is said to have informed Mr. Olney, would pay any indemnity required. Therefore still, according to the correspondent of the St. James Gazette, the projected demonstration of United States war vessels in Turkish waters was abandoned.

FOREIGN POLITICS.

U. S. Warship Should Be at Pretoria During the Trial.

London, Feb. 4.—The Times intimates that the situation in the Transvaal is much more serious than it appears to be on the surface.

Mr. Bayard, speaking as an ex-Secretary of State, says of the suggestion already made that the sending of a United States man-of-war to Delagoa Bay or Capetown, with instructions to the captain or other officers in command, to proceed to Pretoria and watch the court proceedings in behalf of Hammond and the other accused Americans, would be entirely within the province of the President and very advisable if a special representative of the United States government can not be dispatched in time for the trials.

IT IS BELIEVED

That the Sultan Has an Agreement With Russia.

Constantinople, Jan. 29.—It is now believed here that a tacit entente exists between Russia and Turkey, and that by its terms Russia has engaged to support Turkey in certain events, such as the passage of the Dardanelles by a British fleet. On the other hand, it is understood Turkey has agreed to permit Russia to occupy and pacify Armenia.

The position of France in regard to the understanding between Russia and Turkey is much discussed here, and it is thought in certain circles that the republic will be constrained to separate herself from Russia, as the latter's policy is held to be opposed to French interests.

THE ARMENIAN STORY

Told in the English Blue Book Just Issued.

London, Jan. 29.—Blue books have been issued containing all of the official dispatches relative to Armenia between July 24, 1894, and October 6, 1895, and the reports of the consular delegates attached to the Sassoun commission.

The report acquits the Armenians of the charges brought against them of burning their own property to incite an outbreak amongst their people, adding that the facts elicited show that Agitator Murad instigated several Armenian outrages on Kurds. The latter then related that the Armenians fled to their villages.

The conflicts between the Armenians and Kurds followed, and the government did nothing to arrive at a peaceful settlement or to protect women and children.

The delegates are compelled to believe, the report says, that all the Armenians who fell into the hands of the soldiers, the Kurds or the Zaptchs, were either killed or wounded and that with the exception of 11 villagers of Talorin not a single prisoner was taken.

The report shows that the number of killed has been grossly exaggerated, but the report admits that owing to the absence of registration it is impossible even approximately to fix the number of victims. There is appended, however, to the report a tabulated list of all the evidence tendered to the commission. The British delegate Shipley, in a memorandum attached to the joint report from the evidence gathered by Consul Hampson during his tour, estimates the total number of victims in the Sassoun district, including deaths from starvation at about 900.

Delegate Shipley admits that there was violation of women, but asserts that the alleged wholesale butchery of women was not confirmed.

He complains of the concoction and suppression of evidence before the commission by Turkish officials as not calculated to advance the interests of the truth.

Fear More Massacres.

Constantinople, Jan. 30.—A renewal of the massacres at Alntab, Amassia and Van is feared and the ambassadors of the powers have called the attention of the Porte to the alarming rumors in circulation.

Letters received here from the insurgents of Zeitoun say no excesses were committed by them until they heard of the massacre at Marash. Then they took vengeance on the Turks.

Sultan's Faith in the Czar.

London, Jan. 30.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Times says that although no definite agreement exists for the immediate or proximate Russian occupation of Armenia, "it is certain that there is a private understanding between Russia and the sultan which gives the sultan confidence in Russian friendship and disposes him to conform to Russian advice in matters of foreign policy."

NEWS FROM VENEZUELA.

Spain Will Not Aid the Venezuelan Commission.

New York, Jan. 29.—A special to the World from Caracas, Venezuela, says:

"A Paris cable confirms the news that Germany will demand immediate payment of the railroad debt. It is reported that a German squadron now at Havana will enforce the demand.

The Venezuela government is having daily conferences and will probably meet the demand without protest.

The enrollment of militia continues active. Sixteen thousand men have been enlisted to date in Caracas alone, which has a population of 70,000. Other cities are equally patriotic and report proportionate enlistments.

Much excitement has been caused by the report that Spain will refuse the American commission access to the archives in her possession bearing on the boundary dispute. It is believed here that Spain fears the displeasure of England.

Spain's action is attributed to the action of the United States in insisting on payment of the Mora claim, and the aid which is given in the United States to the Cuban insurgents.

BIG BATTLE IS ON.

Spaniards Have Met the Army Under Gomez.

Havana, Jan. 30.—General Marin, the captain general protem, with the headquarters staff, has left for the field in order to take charge of the operations against the insurgents. Gen. Suarez Valdez has been appointed acting captain general in the absence of General Marin.

The sound of what appeared to be a serious engagement was heard yesterday between Sobrequal and Lacoba. It is believed that the fighting took place at the Saladigas farm between the two places mentioned.

Much artillery firing was distinguished, and it is supposed that the columns of Spanish troops commanded by Colonels Canellas and Galbis have been engaged with the insurgents under Gen. Maximo Gomez, who are understood to be making for the province of Pauar del Rio in order to reinforce the insurgents under Gen. Antonio Maceo.

A dispatch from Placetas, in the province of Santa Clara, says that the plantations of Alela, San Augustine, Alta Maria, San Pablo, San Felipe and Zaza have been burned. The loss is estimated at $800,000.

Rebels Defeated.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Senor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish minister, yesterday received the following:

"Habana, Jan. 29, '96.—Col. Vicuna defeated the enemy on the cattle ranch of Hato Manjuari, killing three and wounding eleven. The troops seized some horses, arms and a box of ammunition; we had a man seriously wounded.

"Major Perez Boyo, of the Saboya regiment, had an encounter with Lacret, after this leader was defeated by Capt. Bernard, as I informed you by cable yesterday, killing five of the enemy. I have just received news that Gen. Linares was having a very sharp encounter with the enemy between Saporte and Seibasi. I have not yet received details.

Three companies of the Las Navas battalion, of the column of Gen. Godoy, had a skirmish in Voladura, Santa Clara province, with a group of insurgents, and captured a woman armed with a revolver, who turned out to be the wife of the leader Aregon.

"Some time afterwards, in the same day, the same column disbanded a group of 40 insurgents, capturing some horses. We had three men seriously and one man slightly wounded in this engagement.

(Signed) "MARIN."

Gomez's Object.

Havana, Jan. 31.—Reports in circulation here are to the effect that Antonio Maceo is in sore straits, his following being scarce of both ammunition and provisions, and being obliged to slaughter their own horses to eat. These reports are not to be traced to any authentic source and are in part based upon surmise.

There is no doubt that Gomez is making strenuous efforts to open a way along the military railway from Havana to Bazabo and it is said that Maceo has sent several emissaries to Gomez appealing to him for succor. In response to this appeal Gomez has succeeded in passing the military line, but the authorities claim that he has not been able to keep any line of retreat open for himself.

Be that as it may he is making progress westward, either with the purpose of joining Maceo or of creating a diversion in the north and drawing off the forces in pursuit of Maceo while that leader works his way eastward in the south. The latter is regarded as the more probable course by observers here.

Despite the claims of the Spanish authorities to the contrary, the fact remains that Gomez is apparently in a way to succeed in his immediate purpose of forming a junction with Maceo or of affording him relief. Maceo is reported to be still in the Sierra De Los Organos.

The insurgents continue the work of ravaging the province of Santa Clara and the destruction there is widespread. Numberless families are left homeless and are asking charity.

Extracts From Dr. Hunter's Famous Lectures.

NO. 6.

Why Consumptives Lose Flesh.

The nourishing of the body depends on the powers of assimilation in the lungs. No quality or amount of food can add the weight of a grain to the body beyond the lung power of assimilation. The food may be good and the stomach digest it perfectly, and yet the patient lose flesh from day to day. It is surprising how few understand why this is. They suppose that if the food is good and the digestion perfect the patient will gain flesh, or at least hold his own. But such is not the fact. The stomach has little to do with the making of new blood from the food eaten. It is simply a mill to grind and dissolve the foods that their nutritious elements may be separated from the crude mass and absorbed—(taken up as a milky liquid)—and carried to the lungs to be there endowed with life, changed into blood, and made capable of repairing the wastes of the body. This change is what is meant by assimilation. It depends on the size and freedom of the lungs, and only takes place in proportion to the volume of air we breathe. With large lungs a man is fleshy and strong, because he assimilates or transforms into blood, a large quantity of food. A man with small lungs is thin and weak, because he can only assimilate a small quantity. Our weight is fixed by the volume of air we habitually take in at a breath. This we call our vital capacity. Poor food and bad digestion may keep us below this standard, but no dieting can ever make us rise above it.

When the lungs become disease their capacity for air is diminished, and, to exactly the same extent, their power to make new blood from food is reduced. A loss of flesh and strength must take place. If the disease increases the obstruction to breathing also increases, and the body keeps on wasting or consuming away in the same proportion, and no diet can prevent it.

This is a law of God, and there can be no exception to its operation. You can not find in all the world a strong, muscular man who has not large lungs and great breathing power, or a man with small lungs and feeble breathing power who is not both thin and weak.

In the light of science, how absurd is the hackneyed promise, so often made by physicians, to build up the flesh and strength of consumptives by food. They have no more power to stop the loss of flesh by food than they have to stop the revolutions of the earth upon its axis. The only way the body can be built up is to stop the lung disease which is wasting it, and improve the breathing. Accomplish this and nature will do the building up.

ROBERT HUNTER, M. D.,
117 West Forty-fifth St., New York.

NOTE.—Dr. Hunter's book can be obtained by all readers of the Toledo Blade who are anxious about their lungs, by addressing him as above.

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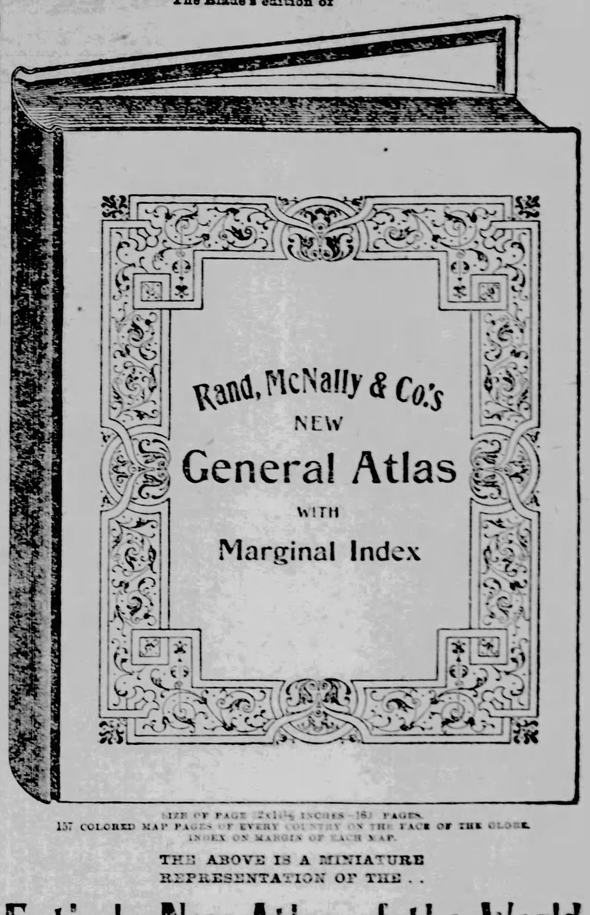

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WASHINGTON.

SENATE PASSED IT.

Free Silver Substitute for the Bond Bill.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The finance committee's free silver substitute for the bond bill was passed by the Senate, yeas 43, nays 34. The detailed vote was the same as the vote on Mr. Gorman's motion to lay on the table.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Free coinage of silver is the answer which the Senate of the United States has made to the appeal of the President and the House of Representatives for wholesome financial legislation. It was carried by a majority of 9, the roll call standing 43 for the silver substitute to the House bond bill and 34 against. On adoption of the bill as amended the majority was 7, Senator Mills changing his vote to the sound money side, his position being that he preferred free silver to bonds, but after defeating the bonds did not want free silver.

Great interest was taken in the vote. Scores of members of the House filled all the vacant space in the Senate chamber, and the galleries were crowded. There was a feeling that, while the vote had no importance so far as legislative results are concerned, it was to afford an excellent opportunity to size up the free silver strength in the upper branch, its party affiliations and geographical origin.

The Senate now consists of 89 members, representing 45 states, there being one vacancy from Delaware. Seventy-seven senators voted to-day, and the remaining 12 were paired. Including the pairs, which virtually count as votes, a complete showing is made of the attitude of the Senate on the silver question. Mr. Mills, who is against free silver most of the time, is counted as an opponent of the free coinage plot. The results were as follows:

For free silver	47
Against free silver	42
Majority of whole senate	5

FOR SILVER.

Republicans	19
Democrats	24
Populists	4
Total	47

AGAINST SILVER.

Republicans	27
Democrats	15
Total	42
States casting two votes each for silver	21
States casting one vote each for silver	5
States casting two votes each against silver	18
States casting one vote each against silver	6

One vacancy from Delaware. If admitted Mr. Dupont will be against silver.

Divided as to Population.

The states represented in the Senate for and against free silver and their population according to the latest figures, are as follows:

TWO VOTES EACH.

For silver. Population.		Against silver. Population.	
Alabama	1,600,000	Connecticut	800,000
Arkansas	1,220,000	Delaware	180,000
California	1,220,000	Illinois	4,500,000
Colorado	450,000	Iowa	2,000,000
Florida	485,000	Kansas	1,350,000
Georgia	1,972,000	Maine	750,000
Idaho	130,000	Maryland	1,140,000
Indiana	3,125,000	Massachusetts	2,500,000
Mississippi	1,610,000	Michigan	2,300,000
Missouri	3,200,000	Minnesota	1,310,000
Montana	135,000	New Hampshire	400,000
Nevada	60,000	New Jersey	1,680,000
N. Carolina	1,720,000	New York	6,630,000
N. Dakota	225,000	Ohio	4,000,000
S. Carolina	1,375,000	Rhode Island	390,000
S. Dakota	330,000	Vermont	340,000
Tennessee	1,800,000	W. Virginia	875,000
Utah	250,000	Wisconsin	1,940,000
Virginia	1,750,000		
Washington	415,000		
Wyoming	100,000		

ONE VOTE EACH—Population divided.

For silver. Population.		Against silver. Population.	
Kentucky	1,100,000	Kentucky	1,100,000
Louisiana	610,000	Louisiana	610,000
Nebraska	585,000	Nebraska	585,000
Oregon	200,000	Oregon	200,000
Pennsylv'a	2,870,000	Pennsylv'a	2,870,000
Texas	1,400,000	Texas	1,400,000

Popular Will Misrepresented.

A footing of these figures shows the population of the country at the present time to be about 71,000,000, of which about 30,000,000 are represented in the Senate by 47 silver votes and the remaining 41,000,000 by 42 anti-silver votes. The discrepancy is actually much greater, for the one vote for silver from Pennsylvania and the two votes from Indiana notoriously fail to represent the views of the people of those states.

SILVER IN THE HOUSE.

How We Shall See How Many Silverites Are in That Body.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The Senate free coinage substitute for the House bond bill was referred to the ways and means committee as soon as it reached the House to-day. Under the rules a motion to concur could not be made. It will be reported back to-morrow or Wednesday with the recommendation that the House non-concur and insist upon its bill. Mr. Dingley, chairman of the ways and means committee, says that "reasonable time" for debate will be allowed.

The silver men are asking for two days in which to discuss the bill. The fate of the substitute is so well assured that the House programme exerts almost no interest, except for the fact that it will furnish the first direct test of the free silver vote at from 100 to 125, the latter figure being the limit prophesied by the most sanguine silver Democrats.

The House of Representatives is making things hum. It is a business session, as Mr. Reed promised it would be, but very little is being done except to consider the appropriation bills. Four have already been passed, three more are on the calendar to be taken up as soon as that now pending is out of the way, and Mr. Cannon expects to clean up everything in that line before the 1st of April, so as to adjourn the 1st of May. So far as appropriation bills are concerned, legislation was never so far advanced as now.

WILL START THE WORK.

Nicaragua Canal Bill Will Be Drawn Up.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The special subcommittee on the Nicaragua canal bill of the House commerce committee, which has been delaying some weeks the beginning of its work, that President Cleveland might furnish Congress with the report of the commission which visited the isthmus last summer, has concluded to wait no longer and to-day will begin to draft a bill.

Mr. Sherman, of New York, the chairman of the sub-committee, and Mr. Doolittle, of Washington, its second member, believe that this Congress will start the canal. The only stumbling block which they can see is the opposition of Mr. Reed and other Republican leaders to increased appropriations on account of the condition of the treasury, which has been demonstrated in all of the appropriation bills reported up to date. Mr. Doolittle thinks that this policy cannot apply against an agreement by the government to guarantee the bonds of the canal company.

CENSURING BAYARD.

Action of House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The House committee on foreign affairs this afternoon adopted by a party vote a resolution censuring Ambassador Bayard for his two speeches at Edinburg and Boston.

The resolution quotes the passage of these two speeches which are condemned in its preamble, and then expresses the sense of the House that the utterances were improper, and that Mr. Bayard is deserving of censure therefor.

It continues that it is improper for our representatives abroad to condemn any political party or policy in America and that such actions tend to destroy their influence and impair the confidence which they should always command at home and abroad. Those who voted for the resolution were:

Hitt (Ill.), Adams (Penn.), Quigg (N. Y.), Cousins (Ia.), Taft (Ohio), Smith (Mich.), Heatwole (Minn.), Pearson (N. C.), Republicans and Howlands (Neb.) silver Republican.

McCreary (Ky.), Price, Tucker (Va.), Dinsmore (Ark.), Money (Miss.), Democrats voted against it.

Draper, of Massachusetts (Rep.), was the only absentee.

BELVA LOCKWOOD.

Returns That Illegal Fee and Is Not Disbarred.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Acting Secretary Reynolds has ordered a suspension of operation of his recent order disbarring Belva A. Lockwood, once a Presidential candidate on the Equal Rights ticket, from practicing as an attorney before the pension bureau. Mrs. Lockwood has given assurance that she will refund the fee alleged to have been improperly received.

THE SENATE THIS WEEK.

Has No Well Defined Plan for Proceedings.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The Senate has no well defined plan for this week's proceedings. There is no session to-day. It is possible, though by no means certain, that the finance committee will be able to report the revenue tariff bill on Tuesday, the matter still depending upon Senator Jones, of Nevada. If the bill should be reported there will probably be some desultory speech-making, based upon it, but the consideration of the measure would scarcely be seriously begun this week, even though a report should be secured as promptly as is hoped by the friends of the bill. The committee on appropriations will claim a good share of the time that the Senate will be in session. The urgent deficiency appropriation bill has already been reported, and the military academy and pension bills will be put in early in the week. None of these will excite any prolonged debate, and it is altogether probable that all will be disposed of before the week closes. The Cuban and Monroe doctrine resolutions are also on the calendar, and can be taken up at any time.

There is more or less executive business to claim attention and the general calendar has been growing rapidly as the result of committee work, while the silver bond bill has been claiming the attention of the Senate. Under these circumstances the week bids fair to be one of diversified interest, with no one topic claiming attention.

WELSH TIN TRADE.

Obliged to Close Mills to Reduce Output.

Washington, Feb. 3.—A dismal picture of the conditions and future prospects of the Welsh tin makers is drawn by United States Consul Anthony Howells in a report to the department of state. He says:

The tin plate trade of South Wales has persistently during the past few months gone from bad to worse. When prior to the November elections "the ruinous effects of the Wilson bill on American manufacture" were portrayed in certain newspapers, there was much rejoicing on this side of the Atlantic. The optimism which asserted itself was remarkable, and when the facts were quoted as being against those who gloried because American failure meant British success, their reply seemed to be, as is always the case with such as are unwilling to be convinced of being in the wrong, that it was "so much the worse for the facts. Unhappily a crisis is at hand, and the only panacea suggested is a general stoppage for a little time—a month—provided no improvement takes place in the meantime. The consul encloses a printed call upon the men to suspend work in this fashion, but doubts whether it will be generally heeded, although as there are at least 100 too many mills in existence the only resourse seems to be to check the output. As it is, scarcely one of the works has been running regularly, there being at present nearly 170 mills idle, with a prospect of an immediate increase of the number.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

Venezuelan Commission Settling to Its Work.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The Venezuelan commission held its regular weekly meeting to-day with all of the members present. A great portion of the session was taken up in the consideration of matters touching the merits of the controversy including a large number of maps and a quantity of matter sent from the state department in answer to request, collected by persons specially charged with the task. Up to this time the commission has not received notice from either the British or the Venezuelan government of an intention to avail itself of the invitation extended to appear before the commission through Representatives. Nothing has been determined yet as to sending an agent to Europe to collect evidence there for the consideration of the commission. It is said that this work could not be intelligently undertaken until the mass of matter already before the commission has been thoroughly digested, and a knowledge acquired of just what gaps remain to be filled from the European archives.

ANOTHER BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

This is Between the French and English.

Washington, Feb. 3.—In a report to the state department from Sierre Leone, United States Consul Pooley says the vexed question of the delimitation of the British and French boundary frontiers is now receiving the active attention of a special Anglo-French boundary commission, which began work last November. The projected railway from Freetown to the Hinterland is now destined to be an accomplished fact, and the engineers are already on the field. The importation of American flour, kerosene, lumber, leaf tobacco and meat products shows an increased tendency, and the consul expects a greater demand when the railroad is completed and the country is opened to commerce.

MRS. MAYBRICK'S CASE.

Masons and Catholics Will Take It Up.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Andrew H. H. Dawson, of New York, who is greatly interested in securing the release of Mrs. Maybrick, confined in an English prison on the charge of murdering her husband, is in the city. He says the next attempt to secure the woman's release will be made by the Masons and Roman Catholics, and that the efforts will be made along the same lines as those followed in the past. The same evidence will be used, but certain additional facts favorable to the woman that have been ascertained will be produced. Mr. Dawson makes grave charges against some of the British officials which he will embody in a book to be issued in Mrs. Maybrick's behalf. He is obtaining funds necessary for the publication while here

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

Senate Committee Will Report Resolutions.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The Senate committee on foreign relations has agreed to report a resolution on the Cuban question. The resolution does not go quite so far as to recommend recognition, but is more emphatic than extension of sympathy. Following is a copy of the resolution in full:

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the present deplorable war in the island of Cuba has reached a magnitude that concerns all civilized nations to the extent that it should be conducted, if unhappily it is longer to continue, on those principles and laws of warfare that are acknowledged to be obligatory upon civilized nations when engaged in open hostilities, including the treatment of captives who are enlisted in either army, due respect to cartals for exchange of prisoners and for other military purposes; truces and flags of truce; the provision of proper hospitals and hospital supplies and services to the sick and wounded of either army; be it further

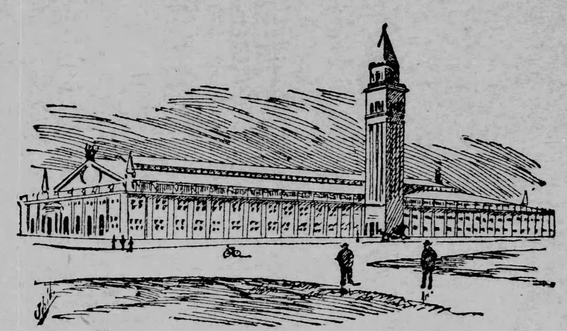
Resolved, That this representation of the views and opinion of Congress be sent to the President; and if he concurs therein that he will in a friendly spirit use the good offices of this government to the end that Spain shall be requested to accord to the armies with which it is engaged in war the rights of belligerents, as the same are recognized under the law of nations.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

CHICAGO'S NEW COLISEUM.



WHERE THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE HELD.

OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

Here in an Incentive to Reach for Trade.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The President yesterday sent to Congress, in accordance with the requirement of the statutes "the commercial relations of the United States for the years 1894 and 1895," being the annual report of the consular officers on commerce and industries of their respective districts. Included with the reports is an introductory review of the commerce of the entire world, a feature of great value.

Secretary Olney says:

"Special care has been taken to particularize the classes of raw products and of manufactured goods consumed by each country, and the prospect of successful competition by the United States with other nations. The recent increase in the percentage of exports of manufactured articles as compared with the total of our exports seems to indicate that the United States is upon the threshold of a great development of this important branch of international trade and the conclusion arrived at from the general view of the world's commercial and industrial activity submitted herewith is, that that which is most needed to hasten the development is energetic action on the part of our manufacturers and exporters after a careful study of the special requirements of the nations whom they wish to secure as customers. The basis for such study, it is hoped, will be found in the full and comprehensive reports which I have the honor to lay before you."

In conclusion, the secretary suggests that Congress authorize the printing of larger editions of these reports in view of the heavy demand from merchants.

A TONNAGE TAX.

National Board of Trade Took Action.

Washington, Jan. 30.—At yesterday's session of the National Board of Trade, L. M. Hapt, of Philadelphia, presented the report of the water ways committee. It expressed the belief that the most immediate and direct returns may be secured from money expended in deepening the channels of the great lakes to sixty feet; in opening deep draft connections between the lakes, the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and the Atlantic; in continuing the improvement of the great rivers of the central basin consecutively, and by the construction of an interior coastwise canal for domestic commerce and national defense.

To provide the means to carry out these works the government, the report says, would be justified in imposing a special tonnage tax on all vessels of foreign register. It also requests the appointment of a commission to determine the cost of securing all property rights and franchises belonging to or claimed by navigation companies holding title to important navigable waterways, the report thereon and transmitted to Congress; the report urges on Congress the immediate granting of such financial aid and support as will secure the control of the Nicaraguan canal to the government free from foreign interference, provided, however, that in extending such aid it will acquire such title there as will secure the ultimate payment of the bonds guaranteed or the money advanced, and appropriations to promptly remove impediments in the Mississippi river above the Ohio and to keep a navigable channel therein.

The executive council elected William R Tucker, of Philadelphia, secretary-treasurer, vice Hamilton Andrews S. S. Hill, deceased. It was also decided to hold the next annual meeting of the board in this city on the fourth Tuesday in January, 1897.

OUR LAND DEFENSES.

Admiral Walker Tells How Badly Off We Are.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Admiral Walker appeared before the committee on coast defenses yesterday and made an exhaustive statement on the subject of coast defense from a naval point of view. The admiral stated that he deems the land defense to be a necessity, as the means of protection to the country by leaving the navy free to operate outside and affording safe places of refuge in case of naval forces being overmatched by a superior fleet of an enemy, also to afford the means of repairing damages and obtaining supplies and coal under the shelter and protection of the forts. He stated that without the land defenses our dockyards could be destroyed and our ships pursued into port and annihilated by a superior fleet. He also advocates the building of battle ships rather than harbor defense vessels as being better adapted for general purposes of attack and defense.

THE TARIFF BILL.

The Senate Hitches a Free Coinage Amendment to It.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The finance committee of the Senate to-day agreed to report for the tariff bill a substitute providing for the free coinage of silver.

The substitute was suggested by Senator Vest and was agreed to by a majority of one, Senator Jones, of Nevada, voting with the Democrats for the substitute, and all the Republicans present voting against it. Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, was the only Republican absentee, and he was recorded as voting against the substitute. Senator Jones, of Arkansas, the only Democratic member not present, was recorded as voting for it. The substitute agreed to is in the exact words of the silver substitute for the bond bill which passed the Senate on Saturday.

The meeting of the committee did not last to exceed half an hour and was devoid of especial feature beyond the offering and adoption of the substitute. The Republicans brought up the tariff bill and expressed a desire to get it out of committee in some shape. When Mr. Vest proposed the silver substitute it was remarked that the Senate had already been through one silver fight this session, and the opinion was expressed that another contest could avail little or nothing. When, however, the vote was taken and the result known the Republicans made no effort to delay the report to the Senate.

The expected action on the Senate substitute for the Senate bond bill was taken by the committee on ways and means to-day. The bill was brought up in the committee meeting and Mr. Crisp moved that the committee recommend to the House to concur in the Senate amendments. On the vote all of the Republicans present voted "no" and so did two Democrats. They were Dingley (Me.), Dalzell (Pa.), Hopkins (Ill.), Grosvenor (O.), Dolliver (Ia.), Steele (Ind.), Johnson (N. D.), Evans (Ky.), Tawney (Minn.), Republicans, and Turner (Ga.), Tarsney (Mo.), Democrats. Four Democrats—Messrs. Crisp (Ga.), McMillin (Tenn.), Wheeler (Ala.), McLaurin (S. C.)—voted to concur. There was no discussion of the measure and the committee instructed Chairman Dingley to report the recommendation to non-concur to the House at once. The bil will be brought up in the House as soon as the District of Columbia appropriation bill now under debate is finished, which may be to-day.

BRING SMALL PRICES.

Sicilian Fruits Not in Much Demand Here.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Last December more fruit was exported from Sicily to the United States than ever before in that month, the aggregate being over 375,000 boxes of green fruit, 160,000 of which were oranges. United States Consul Seymour, at Palermo, who reports the fact to the state department, accounts for the large exportation by the stimulus the business received last summer through the high prices realized in the United States and elsewhere. Now the markets, both in America and England, are glutted, and the prices often received are not sufficient to cover the expenses, to say nothing of the cost of the fruit. A cargo of oranges recently sold in New Orleans brought from 75 cents to $1 a box. Shipments in the meantime continue. The lemon crop is very large, but choice fruit is scarcer than last year. The orange crop is less than last year, but of very fair quality.

ONE CENT PER LETTER.

What Carriers Will Get Where There is No Free Delivery.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The postoffice committee of the House has agreed to report with some amendments Representative Sperry's bill to provide for delivery of letters in towns and other places where no free delivery exists. Whenever not less than 20 persons who receive their mail matter through the same postoffice petition the postmaster at such offices to do so, he is to appoint carriers to deliver to and collect the mail from such persons. The carriers are to receive from the persons to whom the mail is delivered a compensation agreed on, and if no agreement is made they may demand not exceeding one cent for each letter. They are to receive no other compensation.

VICKSBURG NATIONAL PARK.

Bill Providing for It, Reported to the House.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The bill for the establishment of the Vicksburg National Park where the principal operations of the war in and around that city were carried on, has been reported to the House by Representative Bishop of Michigan from the military affairs committee. The whole amount of land embraced in the proposed reservation covers about 1,200 acres, the cost of which is not to exceed $50,000. The $25,000 additional which the bill proposes to appropriate will be used in making numerous accurate surveys, clearing the ground and so far as possible in restoring the various forts, etc., connected with that memorable siege.

OLD GLORY.

Mr. Browell Wanted to Have It Slightly Changed.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The following bill was introduced into the House yesterday by Mr. Browell, of Ohio: Providing that the flag of the United States shall be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, and the union to consist of a blue field, containing thirteen white stars arranged in the center of the field and so grouped as to form a six-cornered star around which is to be placed in the form a circle, as many white stars as in addition to the thirteen in the central group shall correspond in number to the whole number of states in the Union.

THE PENSIONS BILL

For Appropriation Will Be Reported by Senate Committee.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The Senate committee on appropriations yesterday agreed to report the pension appropriation bill. As it came from the House this bill carried $141,325,880. The Senate committee added $52,750, of which $50,000 was for fees and expenses of examining surgeons. The committee also reported the military academy bill with an increase of $2,400 in total appropriations.

LIVELY TIMES IN FRANKFORT.

Assembly Will Be a Tie on Joint Ballot.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 3.—A special to the Post from Frankfort says: Politicians are looking for lively times in Frankfort during the week as Senator Oglilvie (Dem.) who was ill, has arrived and Beckham (Dem.) who was elected Saturday in Nelson county to succeed Wilson, deceased, will come to-morrow. This makes the assembly again a tie on joint ballot, and it is thought the Republicans will report and act favorably on the contests of Dunlap from Lexington and Werner, unseating two Democrats and thus elect Congressman Hunter to the Senatorship to succeed Blackburn. The joint assembly convened at noon and went through the stereotyped preliminaries, which up to the voting were without incident. Several of the pairs announced on Saturday held over to-day and the number present was 112. Senator Stege again complimented Congressman Evans. The sound money men divided, Holloway, Hayward, Johns, N. N. Ryce, Speight, Violett and Walker voted for McCreary and Weissenger and Carroll for CarHsle. Poor voted for Bate. The ballot resulted: Hunter, 55; Blackburn, 46; scattering, 11; necessary to a choice, 57.

HISTORIC CHURCH BURNED.

First Unitarian on "Meeting House Hill."

Boston, Feb. 3.—The historic First Unitarian church on "Meeting House Hill," Dorchester, a familiar landmark and the oldest church in the district, was destroyed by fire to-day. The loss is estimated at $30,000, but this amount is covered by insurance. The most valuable appurtenances of the church which were kept in the vestry at the rear were saved. A new organ, presented to the church by Deacon Henry Humphrey in 1892, which was directly above the place where the fire started and the clock and chime of bells in the tower, were a total loss. Four firemen were injured by a falling wall on the east side, which completely enveloped them, but they were rescued by their comrades.

VENEZUELAN GOLD FIELDS.

A Colony to Be Organized to Work Them.

Denver, Col., Jan. 31.—Edward McFarlane, a well-known mining engineer of Colorado, and founder of the town of Telluride, has returned from the gold region of Northern South America, occupying two years. Mr. McFarlane proposes to organize a colony, proceed to Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, apply for concessions from the government, and lead the party to the gold fields in the disputed territory, which he says, are the richest in the world. In the opinion of Mr. McFarlane there is no danger of encountering the British. He is of the opinion that the boundary line will be located without bloodshed.

NOT A LEGAL MARRIAGE

Performed in Rhode Island for Fifty Years.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 3.—The authorities have decided that the new law requiring all persons performing the marriage ceremony to register yearly is identical with one enacted seventy years ago which has long been a dead letter. The authorities state there has not been a legal marriage in Rhode Island for fifty years and will apply to the legislature to have the acts of all unlicensed clergymen made valid.

Cuticura

For the HAIR and SKIN

A warm shampoo with CUTICURA SOAP, followed by gentle applications of CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure, will clear the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, allay itching, soothe irritation, stimulate the hair follicles, and produce a clean, healthy scalp and luxuriant hair, when all else fails.

Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. Newbery & Sons, 1, King Edward-st., London, E. C. Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, Sole Proprietors, Boston, U. S. A.

THE A. P. A.

Representatives of Half a Milion Voters Convene.

New York, Feb. 1.—One thousand delegates to the supreme council of the American Protective Association met for their annual session last Tuesday and Wednesday at Rochester, N. Y. It is said that this gathering represented an actual voting strength in this state alone of 313,000, and in the whole nation a strength of 3,500,000. With such secrecy was the business conducted that it is only now at the end of the week that anything like a knowledge of the affair has come out. Filtering is a slow process, and it is by such a process only that the facts have been obtained.

From one of the leaders of the association the facts given here were obtained, and they are of a nature to form the most important and most sensational story of secret political developments, and actual, active political strength that has been made public in many years. It is undoubtedly safe to say that the allied patriotic orders, so-called, form the most stupendous and powerful political organization that ever existed.

It is the most potent present element in American politics. Moreover only to a slightly less degree is it a factor in the politics of Canada, England and Germany; in fact, this association encircles the globe.

Its associate membership in Canada, in England and in Germany, where the name of the country precedes the title, "Protective Association," and in every nation where a republican form of government obtains is achieving the things hoped for and striven for—in Spain, in Austria, in Italy, even in Russia and in the colonies of the old world—numbers high in the millions. The supreme council of the world, which will meet either in Chicago or Washington next May, will represent 9,000,000 of men, and women's auxiliaries with a membership of about 400,000.

The American Protective Association and the allied orders are non-partisan. They make no nominations of their own, but endorse the candidacy of such men as are personal gratification. By such action, it was told in Rochester, local elections, and in some instances, state elections, have been won by them.

One of the peculiar features of the convention was that in the resolutions that were adopted no mention was made of any candidate for President or any office, state or territorial. Discussion of candidates came up either informally on the floor of the hall or else in committee. The superior council, in following out the requirements of its constitution, declared it would indorse only that party or those parties who should nominate candidates whose records are not opposed to the principles of the association, upon a platform which should embody patriotic utterances consistent with these principles.

The American Protective Association will demand as the consideration for its support of any nominee of any party for President that the platform of said national convention of that party shall reaffirm the principles of the total separation of the church and state, the restriction of immigration, and the reform of the laws regarding citizenship and the laws of franchise. It will demand, too, that such party shall reaffirm its faith in the American public school system as the basis of liberty and prosperity.

Its Voting Strength.

The allied orders make claims to a membership representing more than one-fourth of the voting population of the United States. They assert that they hold absolutely the balance of power and that it is in their power to elect or defeat any Presidential nominee. This table shows their voting strength, as it was represented by a delegate to the Rochester convention, who gave this information:

American Protective Association	3,500,000
National League for the Protection American Institutions	1,500,000
Junior Order United American Mechanics	500,000
Patriotic Sons of America	250,000
Order of Deputies	125,000
All other patriotic organizations	250,000
Total	6,125,000

About 2,500,000 of this membership is associated with two or more of the organizations, so that the actual voting strength of the allied organizations is not far from 4,000,000.

Regarding the personel of its membership, an interesting report was read at the Rochester meeting. It was said that 108 members of Congress, the governors of four states, majorities in the legislatures of several states, the school boards of 214 cities and twons, and a majority of the city and county officials in every central and Western state are members of or allied with the A. P. A. The membership in this state is growing at the average rate of fourteen councils a week, to which belong at the lowest estimate 1,000 members.

The national representation, according to the report, is divided as follows:

Ohio, 400,000; Pennsylvania, 220,000; Indiana, 100,000; Illinois, 350,000; Michigan, 285,000; Kentucky, 80,000; Wisconsin, 175,000; Iowa, 200,000; Pacific coast, 125,000; New England, 500,000; Southern and Southwestern states, 750,000; other states, 500,000.

The political complexion of the state American Protective Association organization corresponds with the politics of the dominant party. In the South it is Democratic, in the East and Pennsylvana and New England it is Republican, and in New York state it is divided on the basis of three Republicans to two Democrats.

NO EXTRA SESSION

Of the Indiana Legislature Will Be Called.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 3.—Governor Matthews yesterday officially announced that he would not call an extra session of the legislature to enact a new apportionment law. The governor advises that the eligibility of 25 hold-over senators, whom many authorities claim are merely de-facto officers be not questioned. The Democratic state committee will meet here to-day to consider the controversy.

Gold Mining Co. Formed.

New Brunswick, N. J., Jan. 31.—There was filed with the county clerk yesterday the articles of incorporation of La Belle Gold Mining and Milling Company at Perth Amboy. The New Jersey office of the company is to be at Perth Amboy, and the principal place of business at Willoughby, Lake county, O., and the operations of the concern in New Mexico. The capital is $1,000,000, divided into 1,000,000 shares at $1 each.

HARRISON SAYS "NO."

He is Not a Candidate for the Presidential Nomination.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 4.—Capt. John K. Gowdy, chairman of the Republican state central committee, called on General Harrison last evening, by invitation, and the ex-President handed him the following self-explanatory letter:

"Hon. John K. Gowdy, Indianapolis, Ind.

"In view of the resolutions passed by the state central committee at its recent meeting, and of the fact that the delegates to the national Republican convention are soon to be chosen in this state, I have concluded that some statement from me as to my wishes and purposes should now be made to my Indiana friends. Hitherto, I have declined to speak to the public upon this matter, but scores of friends to whom I have talked, and many scores more to whom I have written, will recognize in this expression the substance of what I have said to them. To every one who has proposed to promote my nomination, I have said 'No.' There never has been an hour since I left the White House that I have felt a wish to return to it.

"My Indiana friends have been most devoted and faithful, and I am their grateful debtor. The Republican party has twice in a national convention given me its indorsement and that is enough. I think the voters of our party are now entitled to have a new name. For the sentiment, great or small, that has been manifested for my nomination, I am grateful; and of that wider respect and kindness—breaking party lines—which have been shown me in so many ways, I am profoundly appreciative.

"I cannot consent that my name be presented to or used in the St. Louis convention, and must kindly ask my friends to accept this as a sincere and final expression upon the subject.

"BENJAMIN HARRISON."

"Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 3, 1896."

M'KINLEY WILL PROFIT.

Gen. New Believes Harrison's Delegation Will Support the Major.

Indianapolis, Feb. 4.—When Gen. John C. New was seen last evening relative to the letter of Mr. Harrison he said the letter meant what it said: "It takes General Harrison," he said, "entirely out of consideration as a candidate before the St. Louis convention. General Harrison is not accustomed to fight behind disguises, and it would be unjust to suspect that there is offered any opportunity of reading between the lines—the letter says what he has said to me and others of his friends for a year. We had hoped that he might be induced to change his mind, but he has evidently made up his mind and his declaration should be regarded as final."

"For whom will the vote of the Indiana delegation probably be cast?"

"I think that in good manufacturing districts of the state the sentiment will be for McKinley. In some parts of Indiana Senator Allison has a following. That will probably get him some delegates. I do not take it that Speaker Reed will develop much strength."

THE ST. PAUL FREE.

Is Now Under Full Steam for New York.

New York, Feb. 4.—The steamer St. Paul, of the International Navigation company's line, which went ashore on the sand bar off Long Branch a week ago last Saturday, was pulled off the bar at 9:20 this morning. The four wrecking tugs of the Merritt and Chapman wrecking companies succeeded, with the aid of the kedge anchors, in getting the St. Paul off the bar. Fifty minutes later the vessel passed the Atlantic Highlands, bound for New York, under her own steam.

CHINA BUYING LUMBER.

Placed Order for Fifty Million Feet in Portland, Oregon.

Portland, Ogn., Feb. 3.—An agent of the Chinese government has come to the coast to place an order for 50,000,000 feet of lumber. Most of it is intended for the construction and repair of government buildings. The agent says indications are good for a healthy revival of the lumber trade throughout China and Japan this and next year.

Cleveland's $50,000 Fire.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 4.—Fire, supposed to be of incendiary origin, last night destroyed the large building occupied by the Cleveland Wire Spring company, and also a big brick structure adjoining, occupied by the Forest City Storage company, at the corner of Hamilton and Wason streets. The loss of the wire spring company will approximate $20,000; insurance, $25,000. The loss on the storage house and contents will foot up about $25,000, partially insured.

Bricklayers Out.

Cincinnati, Feb. 3.—The bricklayers and hod carriers are all out here to-day on account of a cut from 50½ to 45 cents per hour for bricklaying. The strike affects only 200 men who are working now, but it will affect 3,000 men if not adjusted before the building season opens.

Markets and Crops.

THE TRADE REVIEW.

R. G. Dun Says Signs Indicate Good Business.

New York, Feb. 1.—R. G. Dun & Co's. weekly review of trade says: Though business is still waiting, there are some signs of definite improvement. It is now believed that a first payment for bonds will cause no further pressure, and the money markets are easier as respects loans on collateral, though the difficulty of making commercial loans still check operations. But large maturities at the end of January have been met more satisfactorily than was expected, and merchants and bankers report that the signs promise a good spring trade. No increase appears as yet in the demand for the principal products, unless for some forms of iron and steel, in which good contracts have been made this week, and uncertainty as to Congressional action still affects both industries and commerce, but the increase in inquiry and the reports of dealers are deemed assurance of large trade coming whenever the uncertainty is over. Signs of improvement in the iron and steel business are gratifying even though their spring from combinations which have raised the price of coke and allotted the output of lake iron ore. There is also a better demand for wire nails after long stagnation and also for sheets. Pig iron is rather weaker, Southern works competing sharply while speculative buyers of some months ago are selling below present furnace prices, but the averages for all products is practically unchanged, and 11.4 per cent below the highest last year. Coke production has again been cut down 10,975 tons in a single week. Minor metals are strengthened a shade by speculation. The cotton mills are discussing curtailment of production, as goods continue weak, with an output largely exceeding distribution, though the week has brought considerably more inquiries and a larger spring trade is still hoped for. Woolens are practically unchanged, as each passing week of open weather decreases the possibility of profitable business, while jobbers, dealers and retailers have considerable stocks of heavy goods remaining. Sales of wool at the three chief markets 9,945,630 pounds domestic in January against 13,604,915 last week.

Wheat has again advanced about three cents for cash, but only 1½c for May, although Atlantic exports are little larger than a year ago, and for four weeks, flour included, have been 8,403,765 bushels against 7,372,584 last week. Neither this fact nor the continued large Western receipts for the week, 2,381,912 bushels, against 1,226,912 last year, explain an advance for which the basis or the excuse must be sought in foreign reports. Corn has ceased to "sympathize," and records little advance. Cotton is a shade lower than a week ago, notwithstanding strong arguments by Neill and others, but receipts from planters go on at nearly the same rate, spinners taking fall behind last year, as before, and the marketing of goods does not support the brilliant estimates of increased consumption this year. Exports in January have been 50 per cent less, spinners taking 35 per cent less, and receipts from plantations 39 per cent less than last year, and receipts have been larger, but spinners' takings and exports are both smaller than in 1892 and 1893 from a crop of 6,700,000 bales.

Failures this week, 404 in the United States against 394 last year, and 70 in Canada against 54 last year.

Cleveland Live Stock Market.

Bower & Bower, live stock commission merchants, Cleveland, say of the live stock market at the close of the week: Cattle—A little weaker week; receipts light, only a few cars arriving since Monday. Prices satisfactory. Our local buyers are wanting choice, light, handy butcher steers and heifers, averaging from 800 to 1,000 lbs. and they are selling at stronger prices, quotably $3.00@3.70, as to weight and style; choice 1100 to 1200 lb. steers fat and fine-boned, are in demand at $4.00@4.20, while coarse, rough steers of same weights range from $3.65@3.85; common to fair mixed light cattle selling all the way from $2.50@3.60; fat cows and bulls, of choice quality, at $2.75@3.15; fair to good grades of $2.00@2.75; bologna bulls and old, thin cows, at from $1.25@2.25, as to quality. Veals—Offerings light. Sheep and lambs—Receipts light with better change in values. Choice to extra fat wooled. We sold a car of fair-fleshed lambs to-day at $4.25, averaging but 70 lbs.; think if a good sale compared to others, and also to quotations given in the East. Choice, fat lambs, 80 to 120 lbs., salable at from $4.25@4.65; light to fair mixed stuff at $3.00@3.75; choice heavy sheep are rather slow—no shipping trade and only a fair local want—selling largely at from $3.00@3.40; fair to good mixed sheep, weighing fro 70 to 100 lbs., in good local want at $2.40@3.00, as to quality. Thin to fair-fleshed stock at $1.75@2.40; culls slow at last week's quotations. Hogs—Receipts slacked a little. Advance unwarranted. The demand was good and the close was steady, with most everything going at $4.25; some sales of lights to local butchers at $4.30. If you get quotations from others that sales were made at $4.30 they are incorrect.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Feb 4, 1896.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Feb. 4.	Jan. 28.
U. S. 4's (new) coupons	113¾	113¾
U. S. 4's (new) registered	113¾	113¾
U. S. 5's coupons	113¾	112¾
U. S. 5's registered	111	111
U. S. 4's coupons	108	108
U. S. 4's registered	107	107
U. S. 2's registered	96	96
Pacific 6's '96	102	100

Condition of the Grain Market at the Close To-Day.

The markets for wheat opened weak and lower to-day, with a strong downward tendency. The cables were lower, weather favorable for the wheat plant, and Northwestern receipts were large. Three cargoes of wheat cleared for Australia